



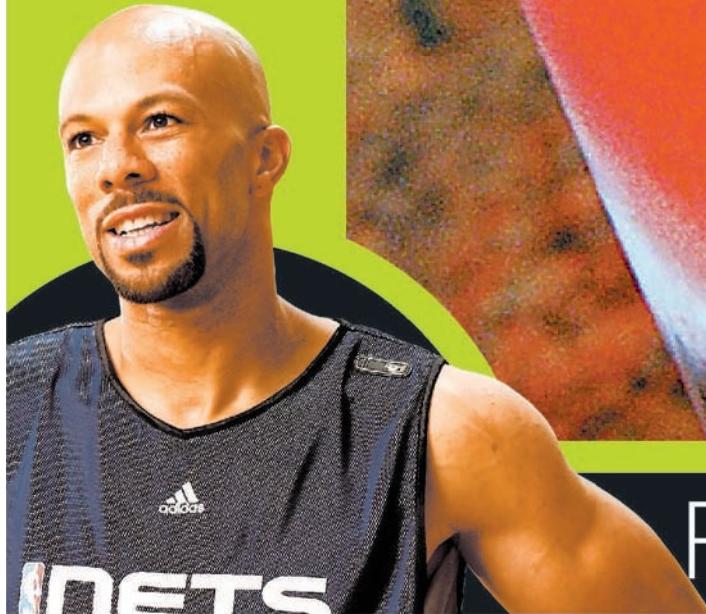
Friday
MAY 14, 2010

redeyechicago.com
A Chicago Tribune publication

★ FREE ★
REDEYE FILE PHOTO

School's stance
on Arizona law
stirs debate 8

Whizzer uses
seer powers on
Hawks series 14



FULL-COURT COMMON 32-33

SUMMER DRINKS:

sweet OR sour?

Don't get caught 'rita-handed.
Metromix has fresh cocktail solutions
to last year's stale standbys 20-21

32-33

best bets

By Rebecca Palmore
rkpalmore@tribune.com



For cool kids

FREE Columbia College Chicago, 600 S. Michigan Ave. 312-369-6789 Party in the South Loop on Friday at Manifest, a 12-hour showcase of art, live music, film and more from more than 2,000 graduating students. Bonus: The Cool Kids perform a surprise show; text **312-869-4954** to find out when. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.



METROMIX FILE PHOTO

For mega-eaters

Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120 Soak up your Saturday night hangover with a Sunday afternoon Crawfish Boil. For \$20, eat as much crawfish and jambalaya as you can and get all-you-can-eat sloppy joes for \$5. Drink specials include \$4 Guinness and Smithwick's drafts. 2 p.m.

FREE

FREE Wicker Park, 1425 N. Damen Ave. Belt it out alfresco-style at Wicker Mic: Open Mic in the Park. Open to singers and poets who love to perform, the show holds court near the baseball diamond and runs 6-9 p.m. Friday with sign-ups starting at 5 p.m. **312-550-6290**.

For crooners

Wicker Park, 1425 N. Damen Ave. Get your grass in gear at Workout in the Park. SELF magazine's annual fitness party features special guest Maria Menounos, plus classes, giveaways, consultations and more. Men are welcome; rain or shine. Registration at 10 a.m.; event at 11 a.m. \$20: **selfworkoutinthepark.com**

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For crawlers

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Dress up in your tackiest sporting attire for the Young Irish Golf Pub Crawl to five Old Town bars. Partial proceeds benefit a fund for assault victim Natasha McShane. Includes drink specials, a T-shirt and entry into a golf-themed drinking game. 1 p.m. Saturday. \$20: youngirish.com



For movers

Butler Field, Monroe Street and Lake Shore Drive

Get your grass in gear at Workout in the Park. SELF magazine's annual fitness party features special guest Maria Menounos, plus classes, giveaways, consultations and more. Men are welcome; rain or shine. Registration at 10 a.m.; event at 11 a.m. \$20: selfworkoutinthepark.com

Plan your weekend with RedEye

Still looking for something to do on your days off? Check out Metromix's bigger, better weekend Playlist in Saturday's edition of RedEye, available free and only by home delivery. Subscribe now at redeyeweekend.com.



68 47

TODAY'S FORECAST

A good reason to start the weekend early



Sat. 64 48

Picnic, perhaps?



Sun. 63 50

Maybe we miss the rain



Mon. 66 47

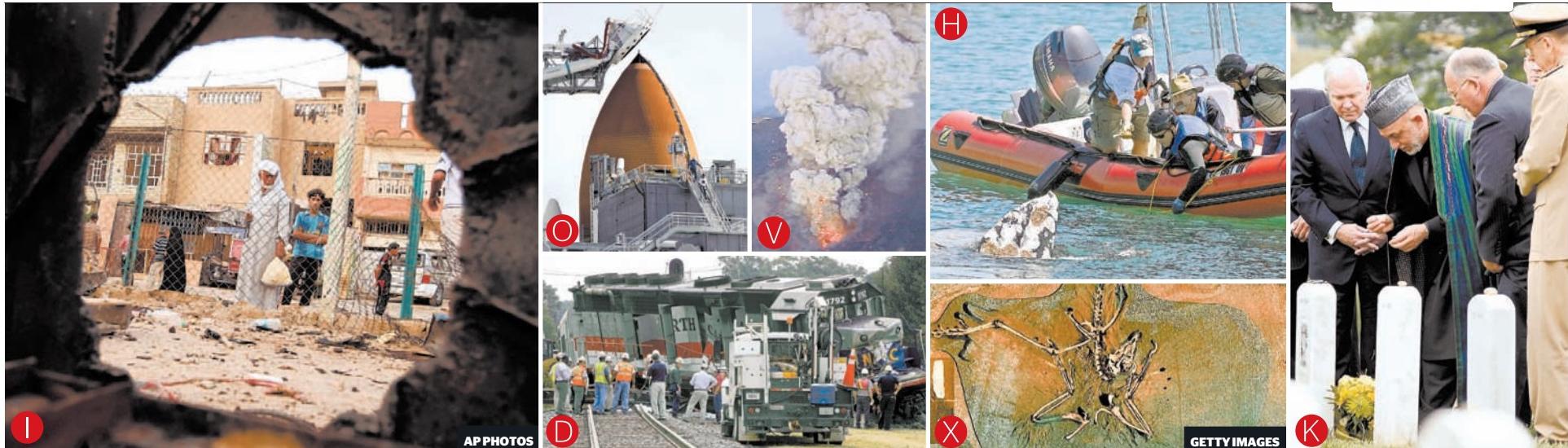
Or maybe we don't



Tue. 60 48

Shades of gray





NEWS A TO Z

**THERE'S A LOT GOING ON IN THE WORLD.
HERE'S A TASTE, FROM A TO Z.**

A

Adobe vs. Apple: Adobe is firing back at Apple with love. After Apple's Steve Jobs recently criticized Adobe Flash, Adobe responded with newspaper ads that read "We Love Apple."

B

BP's next move: BP officials say they will try to suck oil away from the gushing Gulf well with a tube that will be inserted into the jagged pipe on the seafloor.

C

Critical mass: Spanish-language Univision plans a town-hall style meeting Friday to discuss immigration issues in the wake of Arizona's passage of a controversial law.

D

Derailed: A commuter train with 36 passengers on board derailed Thursday in Mebane, N.C., injuring at least 13 people.

E

Executed: Ohio executed a hitchhiker Thursday who admitted to killing one motorist and shooting two others during a three-week rampage that terrorized Cincinnati in 1983.

F

Foreclosure closure? The number of households facing foreclosure in April fell 2 percent from a year ago, the first annual decline in five years.

G

Gas rig sinks: No one was injured and there were no leaks after a Venezuelan natural gas rig sank Thursday in the Caribbean Sea.

H

Dangerous harbor: A possibly malnourished gray whale has returned to a harbor in Dana Point, Calif., a day after rescuers removed 150 pounds of fishing nets and ropes from its fin and tail.

I

Iraq violence: A car bomb tore through a cafe in Baghdad on Thursday, killing nine people.

J

Jockeying for position: Dozens of lawyers are jockeying to take the lead in the litigation involving sudden acceleration problems in Toyota vehicles.

K

Karzai visits: Afghan President Hamid Karzai walked Thursday through Arlington National Cemetery, visiting the graves of U.S. soldiers killed in Afghanistan.

L

Little Orphan Gone: Annie is heading to the online-only universe, ending its newspaper run after 85 years, Tribune Media Services said Thursday.

M

Mexico drug war: After 40 years and \$1 trillion, both Mexico and the U.S. admit the war on drugs has accomplished little.

N

New low: Missouri now has the nation's lowest cigarette tax at 17 cents per pack after South Carolina raised its tax Thursday by 50 cents.

O

OK-go: Space shuttle Atlantis is expected to launch Friday, delivering 3,000 pounds of supplies to the International Space Station.

P

Phone call: Cherie Blair, the wife of former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, said she's pushing to put cell phones in the hands of women in developing countries.

Q

Quote of the day: "You're a hottie with a smoking' little body" — Luann Haley, 45, to President Obama during an lunch at Duff's Famous Wings in Buffalo. Obama responded by giving her a hug.

R

Recycled cigarettes: Scientists in China say extremely toxic chemical extracts from cigarette butts may kill fish, but they can also protect steel pipes from rusting.

S

Success in four? Growing numbers of experts are challenging the assumption that a four-year degree is essential for real success.

T

Terror on the move? U.S. officials say al-Qaida operatives detained for years in Iran have been traveling, raising the prospect that Iran is loosening its grip so the terror group can replenish its ranks.

U

Unruly party: A 23-year-old man died Thursday after an accident at an alcohol-drenched party organized on Facebook, one of two such events held simultaneously in two French cities that drew 20,000 people.

V

Volcano's vicious cycle: After a month, Iceland's Eyjafjallajokull volcano still is belching ash across Europe with no indication of any end in sight.

W

Wall Street woes: The New York attorney general has launched an investigation into eight banks to determine whether they misled agencies about mortgage securities.

X

X-ray ends long debate: The San Francisco Chronicle reports that scientists at Stanford used an X-ray to confirm that Archaeopteryx, known as the flying dinosaur, actually had feathers.

Y

Yuma spotlight: Investigators say an E. coli outbreak linked to romaine lettuce originated on a Yuma, Ariz., farm. At least 23 people have been sickened in four states.

Z

Zimbabwe gift or blunder? Two baby elephants intended as a gift to North Korea are unlikely to survive the journey by air, conservationists said Thursday.

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*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2010-11 Occupational Outlook Handbook

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page four

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Butterfly tattoo is more than just some ink on my leg

I have a tattoo of a butterfly on my left calf.

I got the tattoo to cover up scar tissue from a bad varicose vein removal treatment years ago. The butterfly is the symbol of lupus, a disease I have had since 1999, but with which I wasn't officially diagnosed until 2006.

When I got the tattoo, it was long before my diagnosis. I didn't even know what lupus was, let alone that the butterfly is its symbol. I chose the butterfly because it covered up the scar tissue better than the other options. It turned out to be an apt choice.

There are two forms of lupus: systemic and discoid. With systemic lupus (the form I have), the immune system attacks healthy tissue for unknown reasons. This form can cause major organ damage, muscle and joint pain or fatigue, skin damage and/or hair loss. Discoid lupus causes permanent skin scar damage for some (such as the scars on singer Seal's face) and/or a facial rash across the nose resembling a butterfly, hence the beautiful insect being the symbol of lupus.

May typically is lupus awareness month, although October recognizes it as well. Lupus may not be as prevalent as breast cancer, but I think it should be given the same attention. Breast cancer is more devastating, of course, but lupus information should be widespread because a person can have it and not be aware of it.

My initial symptom was extreme fatigue, which I ignored because I was used to living a stressful and strenuous lifestyle as a single parent of two children with autism. But on a hot summer day, when I was coming home from the grocery store, I passed out.

I was rushed to the hospital and given oxygen (which had left my brain, causing a minor stroke) and a blood transfusion (for blood platelet deficiency). Amid the medical jargon I was hearing from the emergency room doctors, I helplessly lay in bed not knowing why I was there.

Having lupus is a tricky thing and after a series of flare-ups over the years, I've learned to notice the signs before they become serious. Lupus is not a death sentence, but it can be life threatening.

Due to the slew of medications I'm using to stabilize my condition, my lupus is in remission. Each lupus case is different. I had to learn that stress management and less sunlight and heat exposure are essential to preventing flare-ups. Arm yourself with knowledge and please talk to your doctor if you have any questions about lupus.

I'm dedicating this column to the lovely month of May because this is the month when I get to shine and enjoy the warm temperatures, for a little while.

If you see me outdoors this month, please give me a wave or a friendly reminder to invest in some 30 SPF sunscreen or one of those big floppy hats.

SABRINA NIXON IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



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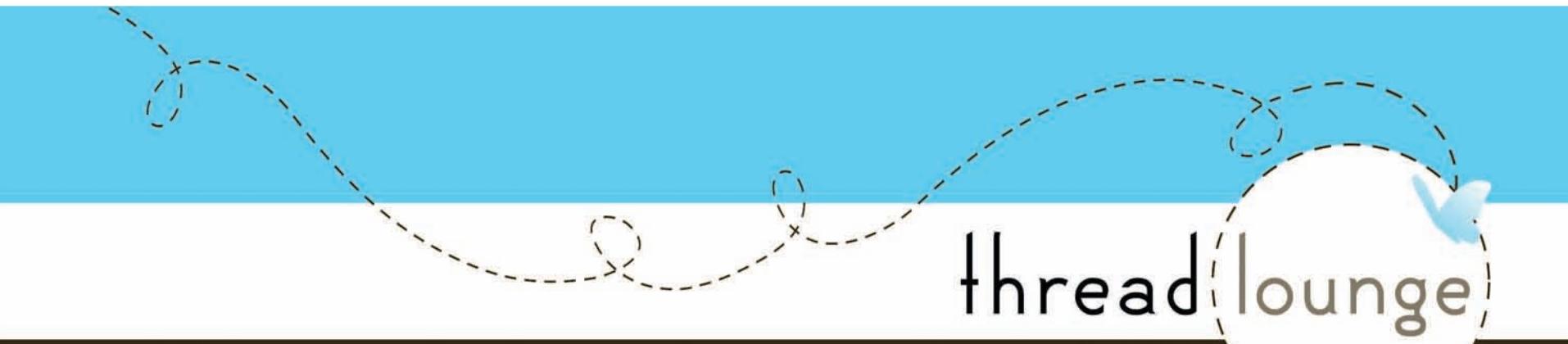


Founder & Co-CEO Steve Ells with rancher Bill Niman in Bolinas, California



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Bigger. Better?

Lolla promoter says expansion's goal to please attendees, protect park

Chicago Tribune

Despite concerns that an already large festival just got a whole lot bigger, Lollapalooza promoter Charlie Jones said Thursday that the festival's expansion this year in Grant Park is aimed at "improving the patron experience and protecting the park."

This week the Chicago Park District announced plans to expand the festival Aug. 6-8 from 80 acres from 115, and to increase daily capacity from 75,000 to 95,000.

But Jones, co-owner of Austin, Texas-based C3 Presents, explained that the expansion is designed to protect some more sensitive areas of the park that were damaged last year and to relieve audience bottlenecking. The festival sold out all three days last year, reaching total capacity of 225,000.

Jones says this year's daily attendance will be capped well short of 95,000, though he did not give a specific number. He said the festival will move two stages across Columbus Drive to spread out the crowd.

Closing Columbus

A couple of questions for Lollapalooza promoter Charlie Jones:

Whose idea was it to expand the festival?

It's been something that's been talked about between us and the Park District for years. We have always agreed to grow this festival responsibly. And last year when we sold out all three days, it sparked a conversation about public safety and patron experience. Certain components of the festival have grown really fast, specifically the Perry's Place electronic area. It was completely packed the entire time last year. We left a mark on the park in that area. We knew that area was going to grow and we needed to find a new home.

Shutting down Columbus Drive for the weekend is a pretty major move. What will go there?

Columbus is closed a lot during the summer. The systems are in place to do it. There will be no structures or stages on Columbus. There will be art installations, an information booth and we will pull a high percentage of the portable restrooms out in that area, which will make them more accessible to cleanup trucks.

Aaron Anderson, a maintenance equipment operator, works Thursday to clear out a drain in Glencoe that is flooded with 3 feet of water.

LANE CHRISTIANSEN/TRIBUNE



Suburbs submerged

Some areas hit by 3 inches of rain

Chicago Tribune

Tony Schor pulled into the parking lot at his Deerfield office Thursday morning behind a flatbed truck carrying two kayaks.

"For anybody with a kayak, this wasn't such a bad day," he joked.

For everybody else in the northern suburbs, it was a slog. Rain fell hard and fast before and during the morning rush, swelling rivers, flooding roadways and slowing commutes from the North Shore to the suburbs that surround O'Hare.

"I'm not a road-rage person, but I almost lost it today," said Debbie Glickman of Highland Park.

The journey from her home to a work appointment in Libertyville on Thursday afternoon—normally a 15-minute drive—took nearly two hours. She said she was stuck for more than an hour trying to get from one stoplight to another between flooded Westleigh and Old Elm roads in Lake Forest.

By 8:30 a.m. Thursday, more than 3 inches of rain had been reported in Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, Cary, Algonquin, Mundelein and Marengo.

The average rainfall for the entire month of May in the Chicago area is 3.38 inches, according to the National Weather Service.

A flash flood warning expired across much of the area at noon Thursday, but was extended until 1 a.m. Friday for northwestern Cook County and Lake County, two areas that bore the brunt of flooding. Rain isn't expected to hit Chicagoland again until



A car is abandoned on U.S. 41 in Lake Forest. JOSE M. OSORIO/TRIBUNE

Sunday night, said Bill Wilson, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Chicago.

Metra briefly canceled Union Pacific/North Line service Thursday morning between Waukegan and Kenosha during the morning rush hour because of flash flooding north of Waukegan. Trains on other Metra lines had been running as much as 40 minutes late, but were mostly back to normal by 9:30 a.m.

In Lake Forest, at least four cars were trapped by water in an underpass at Westleigh Road and U.S. 41. A number of homes in the community also were surrounded by water, officials said.

Loren-Maltese wants radio career

Betty Loren-Maltese says she has quit her job as hostess at an Oak Park pizza restaurant because she did not make enough money and would like to pursue a career as a radio talk show host. The former Cicero town president said she enjoyed her time at Salerno's Pizza and Pasta restaurant. Loren-Maltese says she took the job because she is strapped for cash after being released from a federal prison for her role in a scheme that bilked the town of more than \$12 million.

Hit-and-run victim, 80, mourned

Chicago police Thursday continued their search for the hit-and-run driver who fatally struck an 80-year-old Hyde Park retiree a half block from his home. Police say Lawrence Moore, aided by a cane, was crossing South Cottage Grove Avenue near 53rd Street on Wednesday evening when a gray or white vehicle hit him. "He was a heck of a guy," said Donald Woodfield Johnson, who manages the property where Moore lived. "He was usually very cautious about crossing the street," Johnson said. "He was old, but he was very smart."

Hear ye! Hear ye! The king is suing

A Deer Park man hired to work as a king at Medieval Times in Schaumburg filed a personal injury lawsuit Thursday against the companies that operate the entertainment venue after he allegedly was thrown from a horse. Frank Kaszycki was hired last year to play King Philippe, whose job it was to ride a horse and speak in the Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament Show, according to the lawsuit filed in Cook County Circuit Court. Kaszycki is asking for more than \$50,000 for his alleged injuries.

FBI arrests five in alleged cocaine ring

A mother and son were among five Chicago residents accused Thursday of wholesale crack cocaine sales since 2007 in Englewood. Dubbed operation "Silver Ticket," the FBI and Chicago police investigation led to the arrest Thursday of three people, while one person already was in custody and another person is a fugitive, according to the FBI. Arrested were Jermaine Green, 35; Juan Renteria, 39; and Brenda Mason, 51, the FBI said. **TRIBUNE**

Highland Park High School students at the end of classes Thursday. Several reporters waited to ask them questions.

JOSE M. OSORIO/TRIBUNE



Eye of the media storm

School's decision to cancel hoops team's trip to Arizona spurs a national debate

Chicago Tribune

From Sarah Palin and Rush Limbaugh to Whoopi Goldberg, national attention has been focused on the decision to keep the Highland Park High School girls basketball team out of an Arizona tournament because of that state's controversial crackdown on illegal immigrants.

Talk shows and bloggers across the country jumped on the story Thursday, but District 113 administrators hunkered down.

"Since undocumented students may be participating on any of our extracurricular teams, we need to ensure that all of our students can travel safely, especially in the United States," Suzan Hebson, the assistant superintendent, wrote in an e-mail to the Tribune.

Coming off their best season in 26 years, players had been raising money to attend the tournament next season in Scottsdale, Ariz., which is scheduled for late December.

Former vice presidential candidate Palin criticized school district officials during an appearance in Rosemont on Wednesday evening. "An economic and political boycott of one of



Sarah Palin discusses the Highland Park High School decision and other topics during an appearance Wednesday in Rosemont.

E. JASON WAMBSGANS/TRIBUNE

our sister states is not a way to secure our borders," Palin told the Rosemont audience.

As students flowed from the high school on Thursday afternoon, they were greeted by reporters, photographers and a TV satellite truck from Fox News.

"I feel bad for the girls," said Evan Deahl, 17, a junior. "They worked hard to get all the funds together to go on this trip. But on the other hand we need to show support for our community. Many people don't know that Highwood feeds into our community and that Highwood has a high proportion of Latino students."

Selig sidesteps question about moving All-Star game

Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig is ignoring calls to move next year's All-Star game from Phoenix because of Arizona's new immigration law.

Asked about such demands at a news conference Thursday following an owners meeting, he responded with a defense of baseball's minority hiring record.

"Apparently all the people around and in minority communities think we're doing OK. That's the issue, and that's the answer," he said. "I told the clubs today: 'Be proud of what we've done.' They are. We should. And that's our answer. We control our own fate, and we've done very well."

White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said he wouldn't participate in next year's All-Star game if it remains in Arizona because of the law, which empowers police to determine a person's immigration status.

The Major League Baseball Players Association condemned the law and Rep. Jose Serrano, a New York Democrat whose district includes Yankee Stadium, sent Selig a letter asking him to move the game. **FROM NEWS SERVICES**

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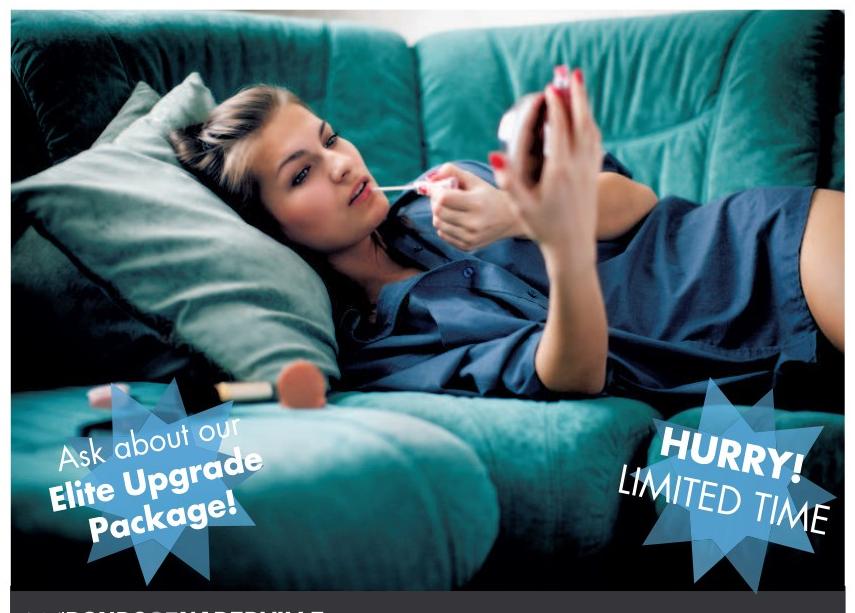


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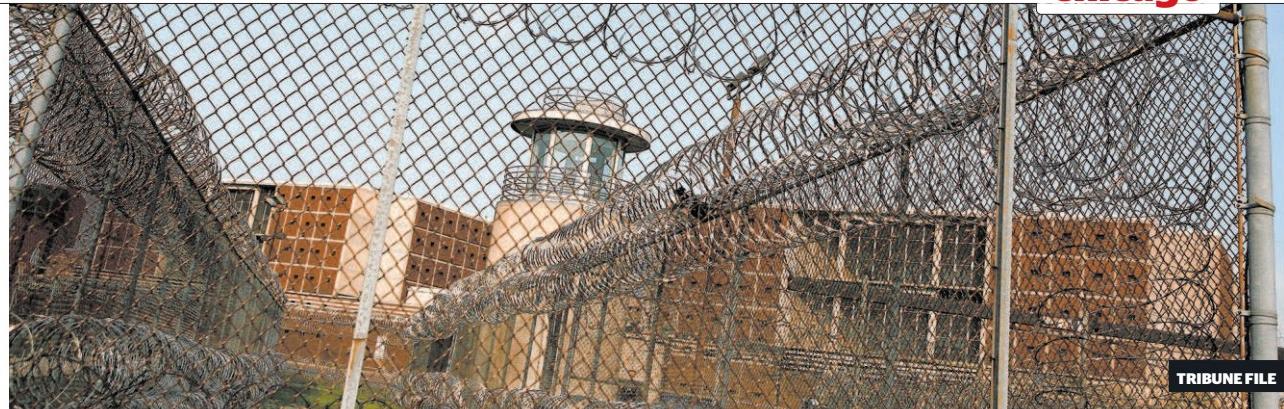
WASHINGTON Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has been subpoenaed to testify in the upcoming corruption trial of former Gov. Rod Blagojevich, a spokesman for Reid said Thursday.

Jim Manley, spokesman for the Democratic Senate leader from Nevada, said Blagojevich's lawyer had contacted Reid's lawyer, Marc Elias, "regarding service of a subpoena related to Mr. Blagojevich's pending trial, as he has apparently contacted many others."

"As a routine legal matter, Sen. Reid's attorney accepted service," Manley added. "This action does not mean that Sen. Reid will testify at trial."

Blagojevich is awaiting trial for alleged misdeeds that include trying to sell the Senate seat that became vacant with the election of President Obama.

Blagojevich's lawyers also have subpoenaed Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois. But a federal judge recently rejected a request by Blagojevich's defense to subpoena Obama to testify.



Tribune File

Cook jail placed under guard

Four outside monitors are to be hired to make regular inspections of Cook County Jail and report back to a judge under an agreement announced Thursday stemming from a federal probe of conditions at the jail.

The agreement also calls for the hiring of more than 600 additional correctional officers over the next year—something the Cook County board already agreed to do in March to settle the federal probe.

In addition, it calls for stepped-up inspections for contraband and more video surveillance of inmate housing areas.

Compliance will be overseen by four "mutually selected, independent monitors ... who will exercise broad duties, respectively, over corrections, medical care, mental health care, and the physical plant," the office added.

The monitors must issue status reports to the federal court every six months.

The agreement stems from a 2008 Justice Department report that concluded a culture existed at Cook County Jail that led to systematic inmate beatings, and that medical care was so poor that some inmates had died.

The agreement also carefully delineates other measures aimed at improving conditions. For example, it requires that photographs or video be taken of all injuries allegedly caused by the use of force.

Under the agreement, the Cook County Department of Corrections must hire, train and place on duty at least 448 new corrections officers by Dec. 31 and an additional 174 corrections officers by March 30.

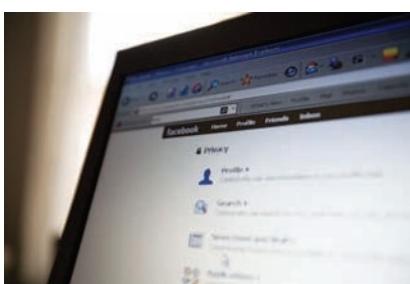
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AP FILE

Facebook security

To combat malicious attacks, Facebook is rolling out new security measures. Users can be notified when their account is accessed from a computer or mobile device they haven't used before and the company can notify a user if it notices unusual activity on an account.

1 Greek prison explosion

A large explosion occurred Thursday outside the main prison in Athens, according to Greek police, but there were no reports of injuries. Reuters reported that a police official said the strong explosion could be felt for several kilometers.

2 Church abuse settlement

A lawyer for former altar boys suing Vermont's Catholic Church said Thursday the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington has agreed to settle 26 outstanding priest sex abuse lawsuits for \$17 million.

3 Missile case plea

A Taiwanese businessman pleaded guilty Thursday in Miami to federal charges arising from an investigation into the illegal export to Iran of items that can be used for missiles, unmanned drones and other military purposes.

4 Thieves steal hearse

A corpse was taken for a ride Wednesday in Cleveland, then dumped by thieves who stole a crematory's hearse and abandoned it with a note telling police where to find the body. Police found a woman's body at the intersection specified in the note.

Times Square probe widens

5 BOSTON A top Massachusetts law enforcement official said Thursday that two men who have been taken into custody in the investigation into the failed Times Square car bomb are considered to have had a "direct connection" to the suspect, Faisal Shahzad.

The official says the men are believed to have provided money to Shahzad, but investigators aren't sure whether they were

witting accomplices or simply moving funds as is common between Middle Eastern and Central Asian nationals who live in the U.S. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

A spokesman for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement says a third person was arrested in Maine, though two other law enforcement officials said that arrest was unrelated to the Times Square probe.

Federal agents conducted raids in Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey in connection with the failed bombing.

The searches were the product of evidence gathered in the investigation into Shahzad's alleged bombing attempt two weeks ago, but there was "no known immediate threat to the public or any active plot against the United States," FBI spokeswoman Gail Marcinkiewicz said.



Violence rocks 'red shirt' district

6 An anti-government protester breaks down in tears Thursday after Maj. Gen. Khattiya Sawatdipho, a renegade who had aligned himself with the anti-government movement, was shot in the head in Bangkok near the city's "red shirt" encampment. Khattiya was reported to be on life support. **REUTERS PHOTO**

**THE DIGIT**

90 minutes

That's how long President Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev spoke Thursday via telephone. There was no word on what topics specifically were addressed.



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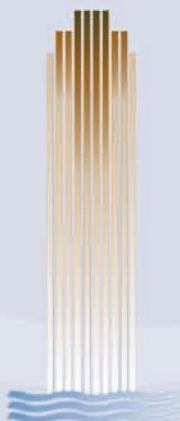


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WESTERN CONFERENCE FINALS PREVIEW

**Hey,
beardman**

DAY 31

The series, and the beards, carry on. Blackhawks Colin Fraser and Andrew Ladd are taking on RedEye's Jimmy Greenfield and Alex Quigley in a playoff beardooff. Who's winning? Text "beard" followed by the number of your choice to **87708** or go to bit.ly/heybeardman.

**1. Colin Fraser****2. Andrew Ladd****3. Jimmy Greenfield****4. Alex Quigley****POLL RESULTS**

Ladd: 49.3%
Greenfield: 36.1%
Fraser: 10.8%
Quigley: 3.9%

playoffs

WESTERN CONFERENCE FINALS PREVIEW

**THE WHIZZER CHALLENGE**

Think you can be more accurate than RedEye's prognosticating pooch? Text "whiz" followed by your predictions to **87708** or post them at redeyechicago.com/whizzer. Don't forget your name so Whizzer can give you a shoutout if you beat him.

SHARK HUNT

BLACKHAWKS-SAN JOSE SERIES SHOULD BE A THRILLER – WHIZZER BREAKS IT DOWN**By Whizzer**

I'm gonna miss Vancouver's Roberto Luongo. We haven't had a playoff whipping boy of his caliber since Craig Ehlo of the Cleveland Cavaliers. The Blackhawks are probably gonna miss Luongo too. Their next opponent, the San Jose Sharks, don't have a Luongo in the net. They have a Evgeni Nabokov. He's started 77 career playoff games, plays in the toughest road arena according to NHL players and doesn't cry after losses. Actually, he might. I don't know for sure. That's going to equal one tough Western Conference finals opponent for our Blackhawks. How tough? I'm consulting my crystal ball, which I had recently loaned to the Canucks' Sami Salo. Hey-yo! Here now, my picks.

Pavelski
GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

**GAME 1** 2 p.m. Sunday, NBC

I'm afraid this one might not be pretty, folks. The Sharks haven't played since May 8, but they haven't lost a game at The Tank since April 14. Sharks stud Joe Pavelski acquaints himself with Antti Niemi by scoring a pair, Dustin Byfuglien makes a new goalie enemy in Nabokov and the Hawks can't find their O face.

Whizzer's prediction: San Jose 5, Blackhawks 2. Sharks lead series 1-0.

Niemi**GAME 2**

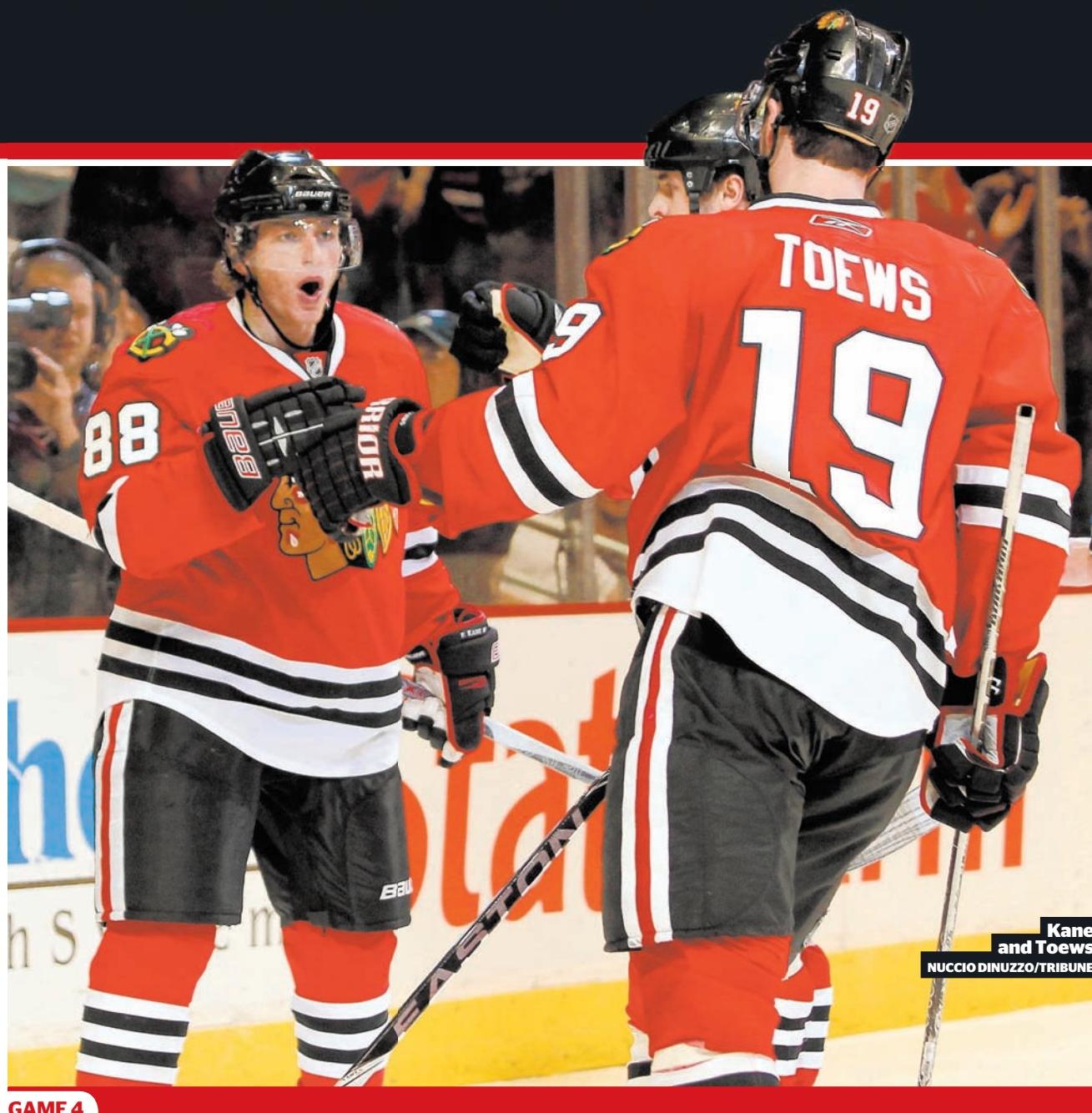
The Hawks at this point are 5-2 on the road in the playoffs, and they earn the joy of six in an offensive explosion. Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews score two goals apiece and Niemi dials up netzero for his playoffs-leading third shutout. That's gonna make the flight back to Chicago enjoyable. That and those little bottles of liquor.

Whizzer's prediction: Blackhawks 4, San Jose 0. Series tied 1-1.

**GAME 3**

I hope you like "Chelsea Dagger" because you're going to hear it a lot at the United Center. That is, if you can hear it over the roar of the crowd. It's the Patrick "Shark" Sharp and Marian Hossa show this time, with both scoring less than a minute apart in an opening-period onslaught. The Sharks' Patrick Marleau is the big story with a hat trick, but that's all San Jose gets. On the ice, that is.

Whizzer's prediction: Blackhawks 4, San Jose 3. Blackhawks lead series 2-1.

**GAME 4**

The Shark hunt on Madison continues. Kane, Byfuglien and Toews make like the three amigos and turn this into a laugh. Adam Burish irritates the Sharks into a few stupid penalties and Jim Cornelison brings the house down. Wait, he always does that.

Whizzer's prediction: Blackhawks 6, San Jose 1. Blackhawks lead series 3-1.

**GAME 5**

Now that San Jose has home-ice disadvantage, the Sharks decide to show up. Pavelski takes it to Niemi again, Dany Heatley finally discovers the series has started and Nabokov turns into the Kazakhstani Wall — doesn't that just roll off the tongue.

Whizzer's prediction: San Jose 4, Blackhawks 1. Blackhawks lead series 3-2.

GAME 6

The only good thing about that Game 5 loss? The Hawks get to clinch at the United Center — and I get to write one more prediction to meet my 550-word count. Kris Versteeg is the hero, just as he was in the Hawks' clincher against the Canucks. Thankfully, the Hawks resist the urge to turn the handshake line into a conga line, but who could blame them if they did? They're going to the Stanley Cup finals!

Whizzer's prediction: Blackhawks 4, San Jose 2. Blackhawks win series 4-2.

Sucks to be Canucks

Dear Vancouver,

Thanks for a great series and the opportunity to return to the site of the Olympics.

I was about to ask where we are in this series when I was informed that it's over. Wow. That was quick.

Game 1: Roberto Luongo came up huge; Canucks cruise 5-1. Game notes: Luongo didn't cry like he did his last playoff game here. Hawks were just getting warmed up. "There's no satisfaction for me personally," Luongo said. Good, because that's it.

Game 2: Kris Versteeg puts the Blackhawks ahead with 1:30 left. Vancouver could have taken control of the series, but the Blackhawks came out aggressive. "Aggressive." There's a nice word. Try to remember it, Vancouver.

Game 3: Thank goodness there's absolutely nothing to do in Vancouver after 7 p.m., because the Blackhawks got their rest. Also, thank goodness there's nothing to do before 7 p.m., either. Suggestion: You need one of those giant indoor water parks that are connected to a hotel. Yeah, that would help, but knowing Canadians, they would try to freeze it. Forget it.

Here's the stunning new strategy: Just stick the big guy in front of the net, let him wreak havoc. Hello, Dustin Byfuglien. Hello, hat trick. Goodbye, Luongo. Hawks win 5-2. Look, let's make this easier on everyone and just call him "Bufflin." Lack of discipline does in the Canucks. Turns out Canadians do have emotions.

Game 4: More of the same, Blackhawks dominate. Jonathan Toews has three goals and two assists — or roughly what Vancouver totaled — for the entire series. Oh, Vancouver, get to know Jonathan, he'll be here a while. He's 22. In today's years, that's like 22.

Game 5: A confession. I was actually bored at this point. So yeah, it hurt a little to not clinch at home. But, we had to head west to face San Jose anyway, so what the heck. Canucks take it 4-1.

Game 6: So Vancouver played three games at home in the series and won approximately zero. Blackhawks make it easy, take it 5-1. Sorry, but next year, make it interesting and take us to seven games. Make us sweat. We'll need it in preparing to defend our Western Conference title.

That's right. You heard me.



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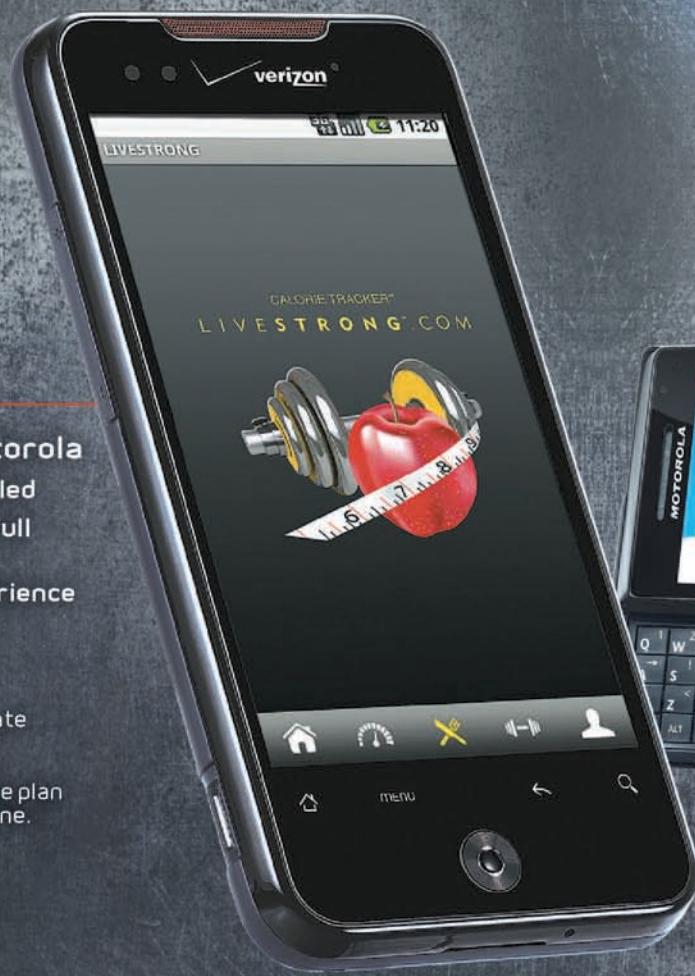
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Sneak peek

Reader Brittany Brumbaugh used the secret entrance to appear here:
twitter.com/redeyesportsguy.



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1 What's your prediction for the Sharks-Blackhawks series?	After Soxman's drunken rendition of "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," Hawks win the series 4-3.	Based on the forecast, they're going to need a bigger boat.	Only this: Fin. As in roll credits, San Jose's season is over.	Shark-tooth necklace sales skyrocket in Chicago, "Jaws" clips on the jumbotron, Hawks in 5.	It will be nothing like when the Sharks went up against the Jets.
2 Who's going to be the next hero for the Blackhawks?	Patrick Shark.	Josh Hartnett. He really sacrificed himself when the Blackhawks and his career went down.	Tommy Hawk. He's going to beat up that sorry Sharks mascot.	As stated last week: Chicago Blackhawks Man! Patent pending.	Whoever wins that Chevy so we don't have to see Kane and Toews text each other over crappy dance music.
3 Which Chicago baseball player is the most disappointing so far this season?	That's like asking who's a gold digger on "Basketball Wives."	Gordon Beckham can't seem to get bat signals. But where would a UGA grad learn to read signs?	Ozzie Guillen, for not putting himself in. Couldn't he play better than a lot of these Sox underachievers?	Carlos Silva. Come back to earth already so Jim Hendry stops looking like a genius!	That guy that plays for the Cubs ... oh, wait ... I have to pick just one?
4 Why would LeBron James sign with the Bulls?	Same great Knicks taste with half the fat (sorry, Eddy Curry).	Because it's easier to lose here.	Because unlike Cleveland, Chicago has two hapless baseball teams he can overshadow.	To be like Mike, as the "Rare Air" to the throne.	We'll offer up the most money, and if Chicago sports are like Illinois politics—highest bidder wins!
5 Not one single local team played Thursday. How did you deal?	Even sports fans need to go on the DL sometimes.	By figuring out a way to motorboat to Silicon Valley. (Stuff my Chad says.)	By becoming a Celtics fan for a day. A sad LeBron is a LeBron who's open to suggestion.	I took a daylong nap in the Mariners clubhouse alongside Ken Griffey Jr.	Home Shopping Network never looked so good.

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Movin' and shakin'

Piniella shifts players around, mixes things up in search of winning recipe

Manager Lou Piniella is moving pieces around the chessboard as if it's his last chance at checkmate, keeping the Cubs on their toes on a daily basis.

Only six weeks through the season, about half the team has gone through a role change.

Though he's probably not done yet, the list of multimillion-dollar athletes who have been asked to leave their comfort zones already is impressive.

It started when Piniella decided to lift Alfonso Soriano in late innings of close games for defensive purposes and picked up steam when he sent Carlos Zambrano to the bullpen. Sean Marshall gradually moved into the primary left-handed setup role, while lefty John Grabow moved into Marshall's old role and Esmailin Caridad went from right-handed setup man to the disabled list to sixth-inning reliever.

Ryan Theriot went from shortstop to second base when Starlin Castro arrived May 7, then

moved from leadoff to No. 2 in the lineup only four days later. Kosuke Fukudome went from being the No. 2 hitter to the leadoff spot, Mike Fontenot went from part-time starter to full-time bench guy and Tyler Colvin went from rotating fourth outfielder to late-inning defensive replacement.

Derrek Lee dropped from No. 3 in the order to cleanup, while Marlon Byrd moved from the No. 5 hole to No. 4, to No. 3 on Tuesday. And Aramis Ramirez dropped from the cleanup spot to the No. 5 hole, spending one day in the No. 6 spot.

It has been a dizzying array of moves, even for Piniella. But the culmination of these moves suggests Piniella is managing in the last year of his contract as though he's not afraid to bruise egos.

Piniella said last week it shouldn't matter to a player where he hits, and retold the story of former Yankees manager Billy Martin picking lineups out of a hat.

"Now, I think he kept a couple names out to hit in the right spots," he said, laughing. "But I think the media and the fans get a little more involved from a thinking standpoint than is necessary."

» Brazilian legend Ronaldinho may not be going to the World Cup, but he is coming to Chicago. The playmaking midfielder, who was left off a Brazilian World Cup roster, will be among the major stars on hand when AC Milan meets the Fire in a friendly at Toyota Park at 7:30 p.m. May 30.

» According to the Houston Chronicle, Rockets assistant Elston Turner has interviews scheduled with the Bulls and the Philadelphia 76ers to discuss their vacant head-coaching positions, a person with knowledge of the situation said Thursday.

» Serena, Venus Williams will be 1 and 2 in the rankings for the first time in seven years. » Kansas City Royals fire manager Trey Hillman, replace him with Ned Yost.

Piniella
PHIL VELASQUEZ/TRIBUNE



Teahen
STACEY WESCOTT/TRIBUNE FILE

Teahen's not-so-triumphant return

KANSAS CITY, Mo. Mark Teahen knew he wasn't in Kansas City three games into this season when he hadn't gotten his first hit as a member of the White Sox, struck out in the eighth inning and heard boos at U.S. Cellular Field.

"That was kind of new," Teahen said.

But he understands that's part of his new landscape as he tries to provide the same production at the bottom of the order with the Sox that he supplied in the middle of the order with the Royals.

"Kansas City had so many young players it had a lot of patience," said Teahen, who is batting .226 with 24 strikeouts in 93 at-bats. "I understood right away [with the Sox] that you're held accountable, and I like that."

"I have communicated with Vinny personally and I'll leave it at that. We have known each other a long time."

— MILWAUKEE BUCKS COACH SCOTT SKILES
ON FIRED BULLS COACH VINNY DEL NEGRO

Everyone's asking for my prediction on LeBron-to-the-Bulls. OK, no one has, but here it is: He and coach John Calipari sign July 1. Here now, my picks.

Cubs vs. Pittsburgh

1:20 p.m. WGN

1 Cubs 6, Pirates 3
Starlin Castro goes error-free. Joy in Wrigleyville.

White Sox at Kansas City

7:10 p.m. CSN

2 Sox 8, Royals 4
New manager, same crappy Royals.

Boston vs. Philadelphia

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3 Bruins 4, Flyers 2
Boston avoids the home-ice flop.

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Liquid assets

Is your **cocktail** so **last summer?** We've got **15** splashy **new drinks** for summer sipping

By Lisa Arnett

The sun is shining. You're camped out on a killer patio. And of course, you're thirsty. But before you order that pitcher of margaritas, allow us to introduce you to a tequila cooler that's gaining on the 'rita with impressive speed: the paloma.

This traditional Mexican cocktail is typically made with tequila, lime juice and grapefruit soda, and sometimes rimmed with salt. "It's perfect on a hot summer day," says Michael Rubel, who taste-tested palomas around town while perfecting his recipe for Wicker Park's Big Star, where he serves as beverage director. "You get a nice kick from the alcohol, but it is absolutely light and refreshing. ... You can drink four of 'em and not realize you're in trouble until you're already in trouble. But people are looking for trouble in the summer."

The paloma's not the only drink on the rise. Here's what to look for when you're ready to trade up your old fallback drink for what's hot now in warm-weather cocktailing.

LISA ARNETT IS THE METROMIX NIGHTLIFE PRODUCER. SHE ALSO BLOGS ABOUT HER COCKTAILING ADVENTURES ON THE BOTTLE BLOND, A NEW BLOG AT CHICAGONOW.COM/BOTTLEBLOND. LMARNETT@TRIBUNE.COM.

Pancho's Paloma at Dos Diablos
CHRISTOPHER SMITH/REDEYE



Need help deciding where to sip these hot new drinks?
Check out our alfresco guide at metromix.com.



PALOMAS

This traditional Mexican tequila-based cooler is so sizzling right now that we're ready to proclaim it the new margarita.

Pancho's Paloma (\$12) at just-opened River North cantina Dos Diablos (15 W. Hubbard St. 312-245-5252), which matches Fresca with Luna Azul tequila, lime juice and sugar, served on ice in a big ol' frosty mug.

La Paloma (\$7, left) at Big Star (1531 N. Damen Ave. 773-235-4039), which relies on Mexican Fresca (made with cane sugar instead of high-fructose corn syrup like the American version) and an extra shot of grapefruit juice to provide its just-fruity-enough flavor.

TRY

The Spring Paloma (\$12) at Lincoln Park restaurant Boka (1729 N. Halsted St. 312-337-6070), which diverges from the traditional with hibiscus-infused tequila, vanilla and damiana (a flowering plant with aphrodisiac qualities) along with St. Germain elderflower liqueur and fresh-squeezed grapefruit and lime juices. Despite its name, it'll stick around for the better part of the summer before mixologist Benjamin Schiller switches up the preparation. Bonus: Schiller's toying with the idea of a paloma inspired by weekly farmers market finds for Girl & the Goat, Stephanie Izard's soon-to-open restaurant (also part of the Boka Restaurant Group).



TEA PUNCHES

Sweet tea-flavored vodka with lemonade made a big play last summer, popping up everywhere from chichi hotel lounges to bumpin' Wrigleyville bars. This season's tea drinks rely on herbal teas and tea-infused spirits; some are even served in punch bowls for group imbibing.

Tangled Up In Blue (\$10, left) at Andersonville's In Fine Spirits (5420 N. Clark St. 773-334-9463), which gets its tea fix from Lovejoy small-batch vodka infused with blueberry rooibos tea and lavender.

Swimming In It (\$45 punch bowl serves 4-6) at candlelit cocktail lounge the Exchange (1270 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-342-5282), which takes a base of honey-sweetened grapefruit and lemon juice and punches it up with chamomile tea-infused Death's Door gin and Domaine de Canton ginger liqueur.

TRY

The Castle Punch (\$30 punch bowl serves 3-4) at venerable speakeasy the Violet Hour (1520 N. Damen Ave. 773-252-1500), a lemony libation spiked with Lady Grey tea-infused Tanqueray gin.



CAIPIROSKAS

Hailing from Brazil, the caipirinha (a cachaca drink with lime and sugar) has sufficiently saturated Chicago's summer drink market. Now the caipiroska, which swaps in vodka for cachaca, is popping up more and taking liberties with the fruit that's used.

The watermelon caipiroska (\$11, left) at the Loop's Bar Novo (1 W. Wacker Drive. 312-372-7200), a picnic-in-a-glass mix of watermelon, lime juice, sugar and Finlandia grapefruit vodka.

The strawberry-jalapeno caipiroska (\$12) at stylish River North restaurant Elate (111 W. Huron St. 312-202-9900). Also featuring Finlandia grapefruit vodka, it's spiced with jalapenos and sweetened with strawberries and simple syrup.

TRY

The berry caipiroska (\$9) at Pour Drinks & Eats (3358 N. Ashland Ave. No phone yet), a Lakeview bar and beer garden aiming to open for trials Monday, followed by a May 24 grand opening. This tall cooler matches muddled blueberries, strawberries and raspberries with Stoli blackberry vodka and a touch of brown sugar.



SHERRY COCKTAILS

Sangria, the traditional Latin punch of wine, brandy and fruit, is a classic. But now we're crushing on envelope-pushing cocktails that get a taste of Spain from sherry, the fortified wine produced in the country's Jerez region and ranging in variety from light and dry (*fino*) to dark and syrupy (*pedro ximenez*).

La Perla (\$13, left) at River North's swanky Sable Kitchen & Bar (505 N. State St. 312-755-9704), a slinky combination of nutty manzanilla sherry, pear liqueur and Partida reposado tequila.

The Picket Fence (\$10) from the bustling bar at River North's Benny's Chop House (444 N. Wabash Ave. 312-626-2444). This rum-spiked cider concoction with oloroso sherry is poured over ice and garnished with torched thyme and brandied apples.

TRY

The Bitter Creole (\$11) at Southern-inspired bar and eatery Big Jones (5347 N. Clark St. 773-275-5725) in Andersonville, which shakes up citrusy amontillado sherry with Ransom Old Tom gin, lemon juice and egg whites for a bit of froth on top.



CUCUMBER-ELDERFLOWER COCKTAILS

This elderflower-cuke combo is edging out the traditional Cuban cooler's mint-lime flavor. Usually featuring still-hot-as-ever St. Germain elderflower liqueur, the result is a little more herbal, not at all acidic and just as refreshing.

The St. Germainiac (\$11, left; \$40 for a carafe serving 4) at Motel Bar (600 W. Chicago Ave. 312-822-2900). This pretty pink drink takes its name from St. Germain elderflower liqueur, which plays nice with rosé, orange bitters and muddled cucumber and mint.

TRY

The Chu-Cumber (\$12) at River North classic Sushi Samba Rio (504 N. Wells St. 312-595-2300). St. Germain and muddled cucumber are shaken up with shochu (a Japanese spirit that's often compared to vodka) and served in a martini glass.

The Gwyneth's Head (\$13) at the Shady Lady (712 N. Clark St. 312-624-9008). The exact opposite of the gruesome scene from the movie "Se7en" that it's named for, this summery sipper is made from Hendrick's gin, known for its cucumber and rose petal notes, mixed with fresh cucumber, St. Germain liqueur and CMS, a blend of chardonnay, marsanne and sauvignon blanc wines.



- Chicago Tribune



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Last month, we declared a bracket-style Street Fight among 32 street-named bars and put the challenge to you to vote for your favorites. Thousands of votes later, we're ready to declare our championship matchup.

The competition's been fierce from the start. Beloved Lakeview beer garden Sheffield's made a strong showing from the start but was taken out in the Sweet 16 round by Boystown tavern Roscoe's. Hyde Park natives rallied behind Jimmy's Woodlawn Tap, but it fell to popular South Loop hang Wabash Tap in the Elite 8. In the Final 4 round, Ravenswood Pub beat out Wrightwood Tap by a mile, while Division Ale House squeaked past Wabash Tap by just four votes. That leaves us with just two bars standing:

**Division Ale House**

1942 W. Division St. 773-384-6886

This Wicker Park pub takes its influence from Ireland but doesn't take itself too seriously (case in point: the disco ball).

**Ravenswood Pub**

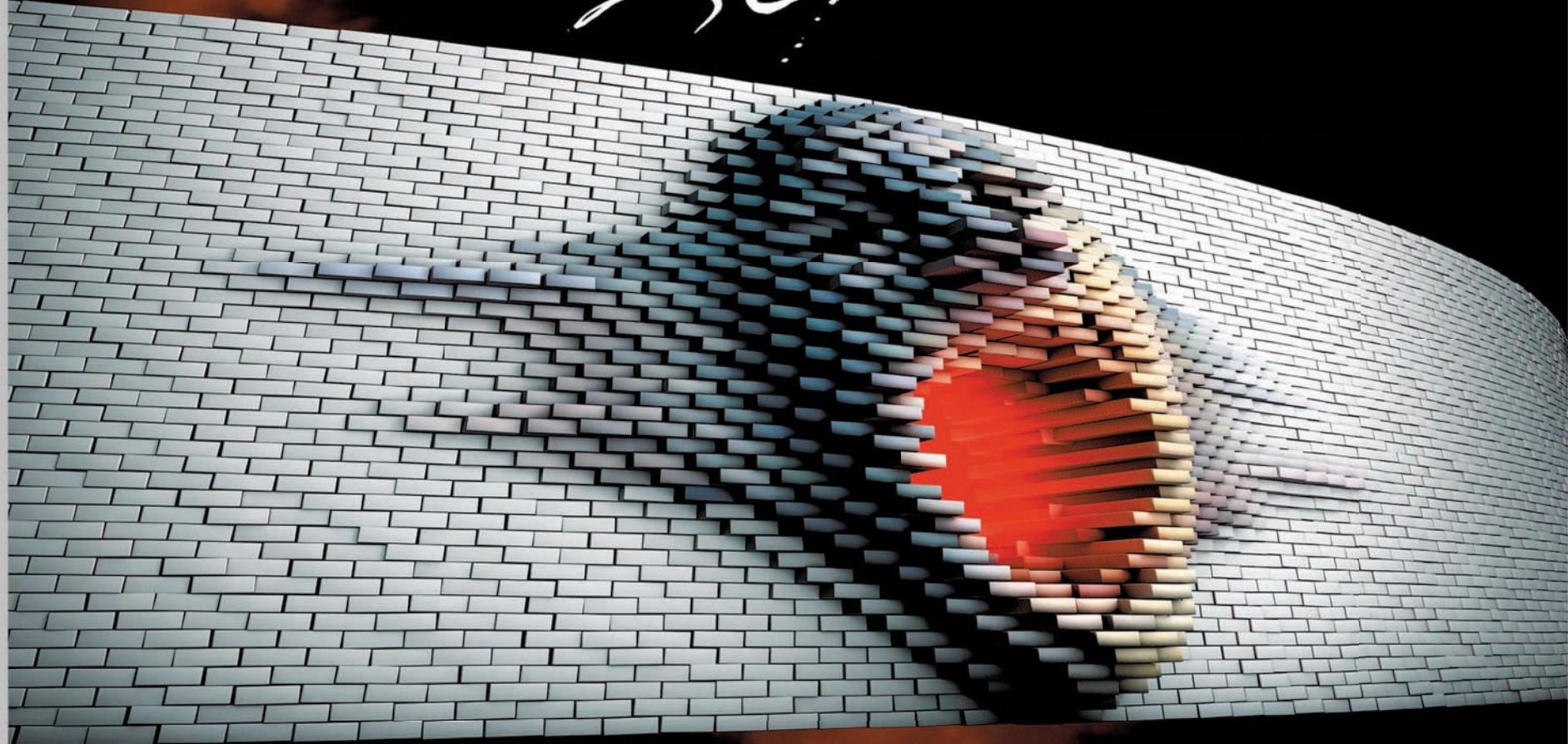
5455 N. Ravenswood Ave. 773-769-6667

This watering hole sits right on the border of Andersonville and Lincoln Square—and it's bigger than it looks.



Vote for your favorite bar on metromix.com now through 11:59 p.m. May 19 (one vote per person per 24-hour period). The champion will be announced May 21 online and right here in RedEye. What are you waiting for? Get voting!

Roger Waters The Wall Live



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Metromix's top shows by Matt Pais



The Bamboozle: I Fight Dragons

2009 Metromix Rock 'n' Vote winners are going to be big. With Something Corporate, Cobra Starship, 3OH!3, Travis McCoy, Jump Smokers, Allister, Spose, Kill Hannah, The Lifeline, Treaty of Paris.

3 p.m. Sat. \$35. Charter One Pavilion at Northerly Island, 1300 S. Linn White Drive. 877-598-8703.

LOCAL NATIVES

One of the year's best new bands. With Suckers. 7 and 10:30 p.m. Fri. Sold out. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

JOSH RITTER AND THE ROYAL CITY BAND

"So Runs the World Away" is another gem. With Joe Pug. 7:30 p.m. Sat. \$25. Vic Theatre, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-472-0449.

HURRICANE BELLS

The new band from Longwave's Steve Schlitz. With King Sparrow, Verona Red. 9:30 p.m. Fri. \$10. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

SONOI

Manishevitz's Adam Busch makes pop stranger. The Lonesome Organist headlines, David Daniell opens. 9:30 p.m. Fri. \$8. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

FRIDAY

BLUE OLIVES

10 p.m. \$10. House of Blues Back Porch Stage, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

CARRIE RODRIGUEZ, TIM EASTON AND THE PINES

7:30 p.m. \$16-\$20. Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-728-6000.

CLAUDIO RODITI AND RON PERILLO TRIO

8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

COHEED AND CAMBRIA, CIRCA SURVIVE, TORCHE

6 p.m. \$27.50-\$29. Congress Theatre, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. 888-512-7469.

FANG, VERBAL ABUSE, CAPITALIST CASUALTIES, SICK/TIRED, I ATTACK,

9:30 p.m. \$12. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

8 and 9:45 p.m. \$20. Two drink minimum. Club BluJazz, 1540 W. North Ave. 773-477-6872.

FASCIST BEAUTIES

7 p.m. \$10-\$13. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

HAYMARKET RIOT, KNIFE THE SYMPHONY, CINCO DE GATOS, HAWKBIT

8 p.m. \$7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. mpshows.com

HAYWOOD YARDS, MARK DIGNAM

9:30 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

HERCULANEUM, LUIS LOPES, JOSHUA ABRAMS, JEB BISHOP

9:30 p.m. \$12. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

JANICE BORLA

8 and 9:45 p.m. \$20. Two drink minimum. Club BluJazz, 1540 W. North Ave. 773-477-6872.

KITTY DEVINE AND THE BIG WHOOP, BROTHER JOHN, SPHERICAL BANANA

8:30 p.m. \$9. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

THE KNITTERS

10 p.m. \$20. FitzGerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn. 708-788-2118.

ODE, CHICAGO GYPSY EXPERIMENT

8 p.m. \$7. Morseland, 1218 W. Morse Ave. 773-764-8900.

LAURENCE JUBER

8 p.m. \$15-\$27. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

MARCO BENEVENTO TRIO, SPARE PARTS

9 p.m. \$12. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

MINT CONDITION, THE NEW CONGRESS

9 p.m. \$25-\$35. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

MR. GRAY, ANDREW PELLETIER, WARREN BUCKLER, MIKE MIDDLETON

7 p.m. \$5. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

ODE, CHICAGO GYPSY EXPERIMENT

8 p.m. \$7. Morseland, 1218 W. Morse Ave. 773-764-8900.

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EXPLORE: The World of Endgame

Friday May 21, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
steppenwolf garage theatre, 1624 North Halsted

Samuel Beckett, the acclaimed author of *Endgame* and *Waiting For Godot* inspired many artists over the years, and we have some of the best with us tonight. Dance troupe **Lucky Plush Productions** will perform *Endplay*, a vibrant dance piece inspired by one of Beckett's short dramas; indie band **Square, the Circle** will play a set inspired by Beckett's work and members of the celebrated Chicago theatre collectives **The Neo-Futurists** and **Theater Oobleck** will team up to perform selections from their wildly acclaimed show *The Complete Lost Works of Samuel Beckett As Found In An Envelope (partially burned) In A Dustbin In Paris Labeled "Never to be performed. Never. Ever. EVER! Or I'll Sue! I'LL SUE FROM THE GRAVE!"* Also included is food, drink and a crash course in the world of Beckett.

For more info, visit
steppenwolf.org.



To round out your experience, purchase a ticket to Steppenwolf's production of *Endgame* on Friday May 21. There are many great ticket options available:

Student Tickets — Only \$15! Now available online and in advance.
20 for \$20 — \$20 tickets available the day of the performance after 11 a.m. in person or by phone.
2-for-1 Ticket Offer — Special Explore offer, valid only for Fri. 5/21. Use code **6914** when ordering.

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MURDER BY DEATH, HA HA TONKA, LINFINITY
10 p.m. Sat. \$15.
Lincoln Hall,
2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

»»» page 24

PAPER THICK WALLS, MICHAEL FRACASSO

10 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

THE PEAR TRAPS, SECOND STATE, RABBIT CHILDREN

10 p.m. Free. Cole's, 2338 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-276-5802.

THE POSTMAN DELIVERS: A TRIBUTE TO JOHN PRINE.

POBRE YOKO, KEVIN L. BURROWS, JOHN KIMLER,

TIM MENARD AND THE FLYING NOWAKOWSKI BROTHERS, OTHERS

6:30 p.m. FitzGerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn. 708-788-2118.

RANDY MONTANA, JERROD NIEMANN,

8 p.m. \$9.95. Joe's Bar, 940 W. Weed St. 312-337-3486.

SOULS OF MISCHIEF, ABSTRACT GIANTS, DUBASAURUS, SINCERLEY YOURS

9 p.m. \$20-\$25. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

THE BLAMERS, LOPHOPHORA, BAINARD PANIC DEFENSE, MIKE MENTZER, THE VAN BURENS
8 p.m. \$10. Elbo Room,

2871 N. Lincoln Ave.
773-549-5549.

BRENN, THE HANDCUFFS, THE HUSHDROPS
11 p.m. \$6-\$8. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

CLAUDIO RODITI AND RON PERILLO TRIO
8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

COLIN HAY
7 p.m. \$34.50. FitzGerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn. 708-788-2118.

DEVIN THE DUDE, THE COUGHEE BROTHAZ, DJ TREW
10 p.m. \$15. Subterranean, 2111 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

THE FUTURE LAUREATES, GREG WHEATON
10 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

GREG LASWELL, JIMMY GNECCO, BRIAN WRIGHT
10 p.m. \$15. Empty

Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

THE HANDSOME DEVILZ, SABER
8 p.m. \$8. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

JANICE BORLA
8 and 9:45 p.m. \$20. Two drink minimum. Club Blujazz, 1540 W. North Ave. 773-477-6872.

JAPANESQUE
9:30 p.m. \$15. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

JC BROOKS AND THE UPTOWN SOUND
8 p.m. \$10-\$20. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

KASIM SULTON
7 p.m. \$20-\$25. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

LOCKEROOM TALK, KIDS THESE DAYS, SOULS, MICHAEL GREEN BAND, ZIPPY TOTEC,

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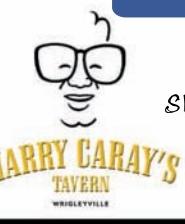
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SWEET REVENGE
2 p.m. \$10-\$15. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

MC FRONTALOT, FORMER FAT BOYS, WHOREMOANS, BRANDON PATTON
8 p.m. \$7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. mpshows.com

MISSISSIPPI GABE CARTER
10 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

THE MOVES, INTO ARCADIA, THE BLISSTERS, COLA-COLA

8:30 p.m. \$5. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

NYAHBINGI DRUM CHOIR

9:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Velvet Lounge, 67 E. Cermak Rd. 312-791-9050.

PARTICLE

9 p.m. \$20. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

PAT MC LAUGHLIN

9:30 p.m. \$15. FitzGerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn. 708-788-2118.

PETER WOLF

8:30 p.m. \$35. Park West, 322 W. Armitage Ave. 773-929-5959.

PICKIN' ON THE KIDS, BUBBLY CREEK BLUEGRASS BAND, HAYWARD, NELKEN

9 p.m. \$10. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

PLANTS AND ANIMALS, ELLIOT BROOD

10 p.m. \$12-\$14. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

SCHOOL OF ROCK

5 p.m. \$10. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

SCHOOL OF ROCK

1 p.m. \$10. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

SCOTT FREE'S ALT Q FESTIVAL: COYOTE GRACE, WISHING CHAIR, HEAT BIRDS, NAMOLI BRENNET, ACTOR SLASH MODEL
7 p.m. \$16-\$20. Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-728-6000.

STICK MEN, EMICS
9 p.m. \$22. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

THE UPPER CRUST, GOREVETTE, VENDOOZA
9:30 p.m. \$12-\$15. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444.

VERBOW, DOUG GILLARD
9 p.m. Sold out. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

SUNDAY

AN UNLIMITED BAND, MIKE ZABRIN, ANTONIO SAGE, ARCADIA HERO, OTHERS

8:30 p.m. \$12. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

BLOOD FROM THE STONE, BROTHER DEGE, BULLET BIN
8 p.m. \$5. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

BUG GIRL, AINT NO ER LIKE A STRIPPER, THE WABASH CANNONBALLS, PERFO
7 p.m. \$8. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

CLAUDIO RODITI AND RON PERILLO TRIO
4, 8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

COLIN HAY
8 p.m. \$34.50-\$48.50. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

COLTRANE MOTION, YOU, YOU'RE AWESOME, CALIFORNIA WIVES, TELL YOUR FRIENDS
8 p.m. \$8. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

MISS AUTOPSY, THEM DAMN KIDS, MISS SHEVAUGHN AND YUMA WRAY,
8 p.m. \$8. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com



JILL HENNESSY, RACHELE EVE
8 p.m. Sun. \$14. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

DOMMIN
6:30 p.m. \$10. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444.

IDAN RAICHEL PROJECT
7:30 p.m. \$30-\$35. Logan Square Auditorium, 2539 N. Kedzie Ave. 800-838-3006.

LUCREZIO, JOEY MARCANTONIO
8 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

MATT CAMPBELL, CARMEL MIKOL, ROB REID
7 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

MEMBERS OF THE UPTOWN SOUND, RITA J AND MR. GREENWEEDZ, DAN PATREVITO AND MT. SMILES

9 p.m. \$5. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

MISS AUTOPSY, THEM DAMN KIDS, MISS SHEVAUGHN AND YUMA WRAY,
8 p.m. \$8. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

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Saturday, May 15th at 12:00pm

Urology & Gynecology: How Mercy Can Help You with Incontinence and Other Pelvic Disorders

Presented by Dr. Judy Sun

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Monday, May 17th at 12:00pm

Robotic Gynecologic Surgery with the da Vinci® Surgical System

Presented by Dr. Nicole Williams

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Wednesday, May 19th at 5:30pm

Uterine Fibroids: Get the Relief You Deserve

Presented by Dr. Cheryl Wolfe

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ON SALE 10 A.M. FRIDAY

The Dan Band, Friday, July 30 (\$20-\$25, 17+) at House of Blues.

Chelsea Handler, Saturday, Sept. 25 (\$55-\$75, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

Ted Nugent, Wednesday, Aug. 4 (\$38-\$45, 17+) at House of Blues.

Shakira, Friday, Oct. 29 (\$9.50-\$149.50, all ages) at Allstate Arena.

Xavier Rudd and Izintaba, Saturday, Sept. 11 (\$22.50-\$25, 18+) at Vic Theatre.

ON SALE 11 A.M. FRIDAY

The Black Crowes, Saturday, Aug. 21 (\$38-\$53, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY

Friendo, Tuesday, June 22 (\$8-\$10, 18+) at Schubas.

Keane, Ingrid Michaelson, Fran Healy, Wednesday, July 28 (\$29.50-\$49.50, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

Kate Miller-Heidke, Thursday, July 8 (\$10, 21+) at Schubas.

Steel Train, Jukebox the Ghost, Sunday, June 27 (\$13-\$15, all ages) at Lincoln Hall.

Brooke Waggoner, Dignan, Saturday, July 3 (\$10, 18+) at Schubas.

Wakey! Wakey!, The Spring Standards, Wednesday, June 16 (\$10-\$12, 18+) at Schubas.

ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, Hacienda, Friday, June 18 (\$15-\$17, 21+) at Martyrs'.

Jonas Brothers, Demi Lovato, Saturday, Aug. 7 (\$37.50-\$97.50, all ages) at First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre.

Maps and Atlases, Fang Island, Saturday, June 26 (\$12, 17+) at Subterranean.

Renaissance, Steve Hackett, Tuesday, June 29 (\$40, 18+) at Park West.

Shinedown, Chevelle, Sevendust, 10 Years, Wednesday, Aug. 11 (\$35, all ages) at Northerly Island's Charter One Pavilion.



ON SALE 10 A.M. FRIDAY

Nick Cannon, Friday, Aug. 27 (\$18-\$23, all ages) at House of Blues.

Widespread Panic, Thursday, July 15, Friday, July 16, Saturday, July 17 (\$39.50, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

Limp Bizkit, Thursday, July 15 (\$20-\$49.50, all ages; \$60 for 4-pack including parking) at First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre.

ON SALE 11 A.M. SATURDAY

Tommy Castro Band, Saturday, July 10 (\$15-\$20, all ages) at Space.

Slum Village, Friday, July 10 (\$15, 21+) at Double Door.

Wilco, Yo La Tengo, Friday, July 30 (\$45, all ages) at Coveleski Ballpark, South Bend, Ind.

The Streets on Fire, Friday, July 2 (\$10, 21+) at Double Door.

ON SALE NOON SATURDAY

"American Idol Live!" 2010, Monday, Aug. 30 (\$40.50-\$76, all ages) at United Center.

ON SALE 10 A.M. MONDAY

Roger Waters, Thursday, Sept. 23 (Prices TBD, all ages) at United Center.

ON SALE NOW

Lucky Boys Confusion, Thursday, May 27 (\$13-\$15, 17+) at Beat Kitchen.

Andrew Belle, Andy Davis, Trent Dabbs, Saturday, June 26 (\$10, 21+) at Double Door.

Sublime with Rome, Matisyahu, The Dirty Heads, Tuesday, July 13 (\$39.50, all ages) at Northerly Island's Charter One Pavilion.



Shakira
GETTY

@mmxmusic question of the week asked:

Shakira tickets go on sale Friday. Would she be famous if she didn't know how to swivel her hips like that?

Here are some of our favorite answers from Twitter and Facebook. Follow **@mmxmusic** and watch for our next question!

Twitter

@BVAX

I'm not complaining!! Keep swiveling Shakira!!!

@mscindylee

Yes, for her philanthropy work and global campaign to provide education for poor children.

@migahealing

She was famous b4 she swiveled her hips. She's an amazing songwriter & Latin America loved her songs for yrs b4 the hips, lol.

@geoffjania

Who's Shakira?

@corsters

To be honest? I think Shakira sounds like Miss Piggy when she sings. "It's all in the hips."

@Outsanity

She would be famous. Like Vanillia Ice famous. Thank God for them hips!

Facebook

Heather Sac-Kristen

Yes, she has an AweSome voice to go along with that swivel!

Fard Muhammad

I'm sure the same could have been said about Elvis.

Jenni Dubiel

On Mute is the only way to listen to her weird warbly voice! :)

Alexis Smulson

Her voice at times reminds me of nails on a chalkboard, but she hypnotizes with the hips, so it lessens the blow!

Daniel J. Hunter

she allegedly has a genius IQ. Can speak 7 languages. She would be successful regardless.

Harvey Henao

she was enjoying a successful career way before anyone saw her hips shake.

Chandra Repple

Thankfully...we'll never know.

pop

Hoopin' it up

Common knowledge

» What his on-court nickname would be: "Great Scott" or "The Weapon"

» Other roles he wants to play: Marvin Gaye. Gil Scott-Heron. Barack Obama. Superheroes.

» The album he's most proud of: "Be."

» Working on next album, "The Believer," with producers Kanye West, No I.D., Why Not. Expects album out in late October.

» He now spends most of his time in L.A. and some in New York, but he comes back to Chicago

five to seven times a year for various promotional opportunities and to celebrate holidays with his family on the Southeast Side.

» What he misses about Chicago: "Mostly I love the authentic people of Chicago and the blue-collar spirit of 'We work hard and we are true to who we are.' It's a certain warmth in Chicago people that I love."

» Food he misses: Giordano's, Gino's, Italian Fiesta pizza. N9NE. Joe's Stone Crab. J+J Fish catfish.

FAST-PAUSED

★★½ 'Just Wright' (PG)
As cliché and predictable as can be, with an important difference from other romantic comedies: The characters are likable and you want them to be happy." —M.P.

» QUEEN LATIFAH COMBINES TWO PASSIONS IN "JUST WRIGHT."
PAGE 37



By Matt Pals

METROMIX

A badass. A tough guy. A badass tough guy ... Those are, essentially, the characters South Side native Common has portrayed on the big screen.

The rapper-actor changes things up with his first leading role in the romantic comedy "Just Wright," opening Friday. He plays soft-hearted New Jersey Nets star Scott McKnight, who bonds with his physical therapist, played by Queen Latifah.

Common took the role for several reasons, he recently told RedEye.

"The love he has for his mother," the 38-year-old said, kicking off his list. "He's a sensitive guy. He's an NBA star, which can, in some ways, be related to being a [popular] hip-hop artist. And his need for love, even through the popularity. Wanting to be in a good relationship. Those are things that I really related to. And I related

to basketball. Shoot, I love basketball."

The actor, born Lonnie Rashied Lynn Jr., played ball at Luther High School South. In "Just Wright," he gets to square off against NBA stars Dwight Howard and Chicago native Dwyane Wade.

"I got past D-Wade a couple of times," Common said. "But I missed the layup."

During an interview at the Four Seasons Hotel, Common talked about his blossoming acting career, Chicago and playing tennis with Serena Williams. But mostly, he talked basketball.

What do you see yourself bringing to the Bulls next season after you declare your eligibility?

[Laughs.] I could bring a great sense of leadership. I could bring definitely a court awareness that would involve everybody on the team. I could be the Jason Kidd, the

Chauncey Billups and the Derrick Rose, as he develops, of the Bulls.

As you filmed, did you bring free agent Dwyane Wade aside and say, "Hey, the Bulls could use you. What's up?"

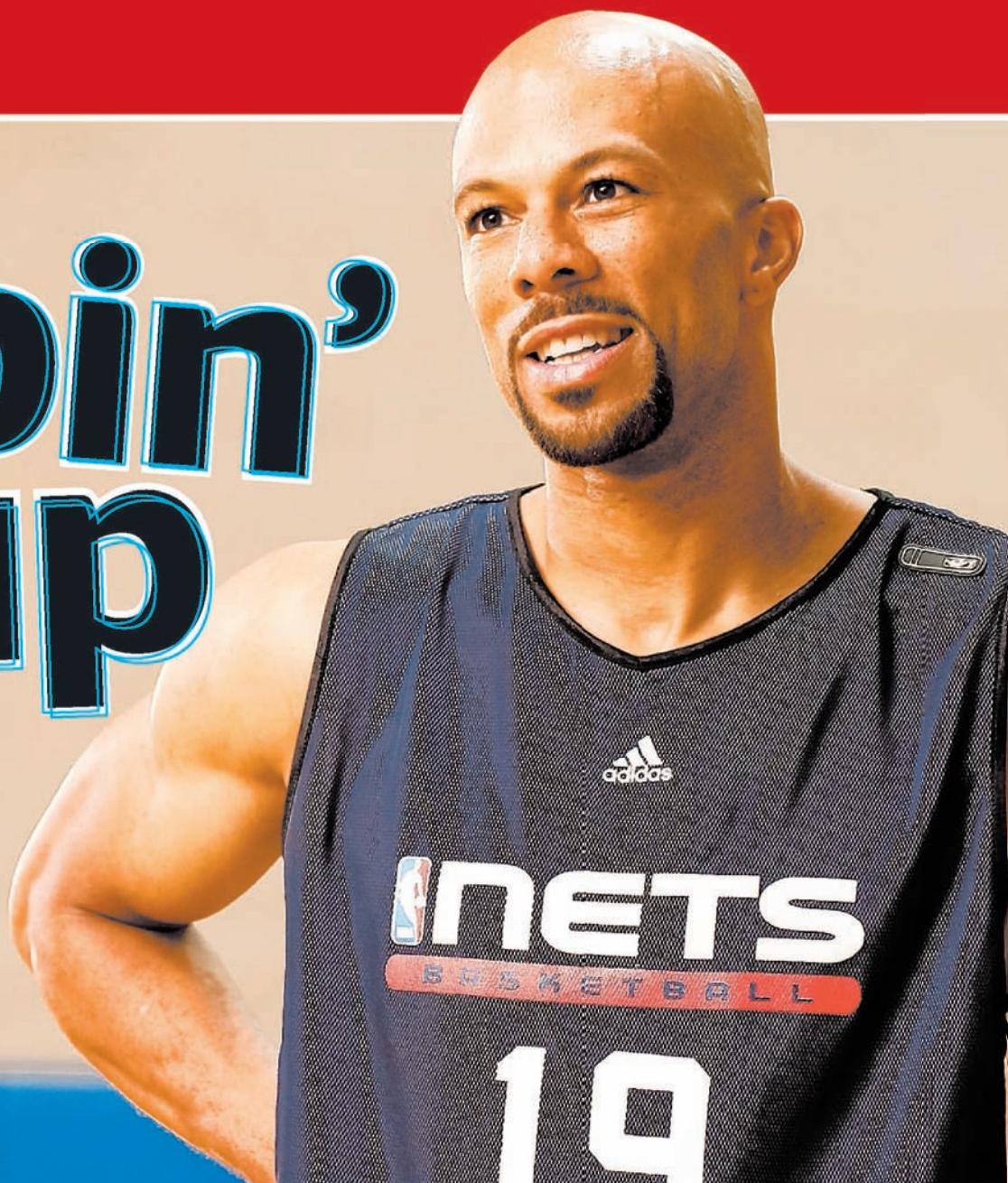
I definitely tried to pick his brain a little to see what he was doing. I was like, "What you think about next year?" He definitely wasn't giving me any answers.

Meanwhile, you're giggling and trying to play it cool.

Exactly. Like, "So where you think you're going to get a house at next year?"

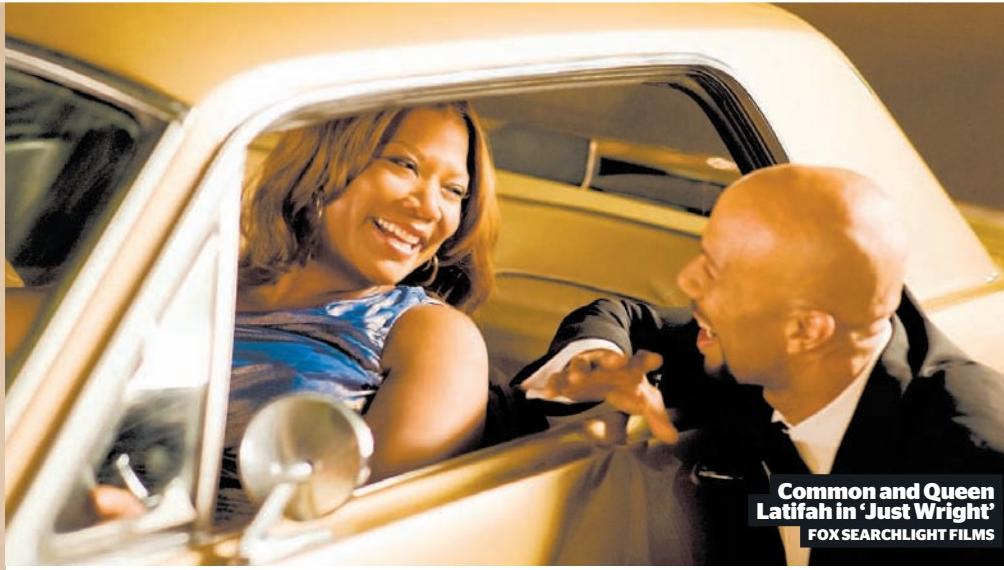
"Saw a real nice place on Lake Shore Drive..."

Yeah, exactly. "Man, it'd be nice, man. We could do a lot of Chicago campaigning." It would be great if we could get D-Wade here



CHICAGO'S COMMON COURTS ROM-COM STARDOM WITH LEADING ROLE TURN IN 'JUST WRIGHT'

Common plays NBA star Scott McKnight in 'Just Wright.'
FOX SEARCHLIGHT FILMS



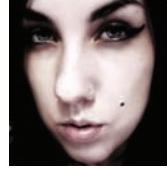
READER QUESTION

Reader @ccyanyde asked Common:

Are you still a vegetarian and what's your favorite vegetarian food?

"Ooh, good question. I eat fish now. I eat fish and that's it. That's the only meat that I eat. My favorite vegetarian food would have to be... I like black beans and rice. I like veggie dogs."

FOLLOW @MATTPAIS FOR A CHANCE TO ASK YOUR OWN CELEBRITY QUESTIONS



Not in a gossipy way, just to confirm: Are you together with Serena Williams right now?

Serena and I are very—we're close. We're definitely close. I really think she's a wonderful woman, definitely.

Can you say what her title is?

I don't know if it is a title yet. I know we're really close, and if you said that I was dating her, I would say, "Yeah."

Do you guys ever play tennis together?

I got to play at a practice. I hit a couple of balls with her, and she hit me with the ball. And it stung.

What's the difference between playing tennis with Serena Williams and basketball with Dwyane Wade?

I think I fare better with basketball with D-Wade because I can hoop. Tennis, man, I'm just learning the strategy of the game. It's a stroke and a swing that you gotta work at. My stroke and my shot [in basketball] are there. I could come help the Bulls, man.

Marv Albert plays a broadcaster in the movie. How worried were you that he'd come up and say, "Dude, you called me freaky on 'Like Water For Chocolate'!"

[Laughs.] Yo, I thought about that. It's funny, you know when you say lyrics you never even think you will meet the person. But you gotta stand on your lyrics. So I was like, "Man, if he brings this up, I'm just going to say, 'Yo, hey, you had your fun. You did some freaky things. Freaky deaky soul.'" Anyway, I did think about it when we were taking pictures. It never came up. MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODUCER.

for the Bulls. We gotta do some campaigning to get him here. We gotta get me, Kanye, Barack, everybody to call him.

What were you thinking as the Nets almost had the worst season of all time, and you've got a movie coming out with the Nets as one of the best in the league?

I was thinking, "Man, the Nets could really use me right now." I was like, "Is this really bad for the movie or is it good for the movie?" Because some people that don't watch basketball as much actually could look at the movie because they don't know the players for the Nets, could be like, "Does this guy really play for the Nets?"

How excited were you to play a leading role?
I was very excited to be able to play a leading role just for what I knew I could do and for what I wanted to show and express. ... My

Common, Wade are basketbuds

No, Miami Heat free agent Dwyane Wade won't say if he's coming back to his native Chicago to play for the Bulls next year.

He does, however, have praise for Chicago rapper-actor Common, with whom Wade appears on-court in the romantic comedy "Just Wright."

"He did a good job being prepared," the former South Sider said. "I'd tell him to stay on it, stay with it. He was all right."

From New York, Wade, 28, talked about his rap skills and going up against Common on the court. —M.P.

What number will you wear on the Bulls next year?

[Laughs] Good question. That's funny. I be wearing Number 3 no matter what jersey I have on.

How and why did you get involved in "Just Wright"?

Having a great relationship with Queen [Latifah] because of things she's helped us do with our foundation, me and Alonzo [Mourning], in Miami. And also having the Chicago connection and relationship with Common. We was friends, and I got the opportunity to come down.

Had you played ball together before?

No, we haven't hooped together. Now that he feels he's Scott McKnight, he's this NBA player, now he want to get on the court. I think this time, we might have to get out there a little bit.

How do your rap skills compare to Common's basketball skills?

Uh, my rap skills are terrible. He's a 10 on the scale if you're going to [compare] my rap skills [against] his basketball skills.

Want to throw something out there now to practice?

Not at all. [Laughs.] No, not at all.

» FOR THE FULL INTERVIEW, GO TO METROMIX.COM.



Dwyane Wade
GETTY IMAGES

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R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian

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888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- Robin Hood (PG-13) 10:00,11:30,1:00,3:00,4:00,6:15,7:15,9:30,10:30
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) 10:45,1:45,4:45,7:45,10:45
- Letters to Juliet (PG) 11:15,2:15,5:00,7:30,10:10
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) 11:45,12:45,2:45,3:45,5:45,6:45,8:45,9:45
- A Nightmare on Elm Street (R) 10:30,1:15,3:30,6:00,8:30,11:00
- Date Night (PG-13) 10:15,12:30,3:15,5:30,8:00,10:20
- The Back-up Plan (PG-13) 11:00,1:30,4:15,7:00,10:00

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- Casino Jack and the United States of Money (R) 1:15,4:05,7:05,10:00
- The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (NR) 1:05,4:25,8:15
- The Secret in Their Eyes (R) 1:00,4:05,7:10,10:05
- Exit Through the Gift Shop (PG-13) 1:45,4:30,7:45,10:15
- Harry Brown (R) 1:30,4:00,7:00,9:30
- The Ghost Writer (PG-13) 1:10,4:10,7:20,10:10
- Please Give (R) 1:40,4:15,7:15,9:40

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)
2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642

- Just Wright (PG) ★ 11:45,2:15,5:15,7:45,10:15
- Just Wright (PG) ★ 12:30,3:30,6:30,9:30
- Robin Hood (PG-13) ★ 9:45,11:15,12:15,1:15,2:45,3:45,4:45,6:15,7:15,8:45,9:40
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ 10:00,11:00,12:00,1:00,1:30,2:00,3:00,4:00,4:30,5:00,6:00,7:00,8:00,9:00,10:00,10:30
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:30,2:30,5:30,8:30
- A Nightmare on Elm Street (R) 11:10,1:50,4:20,7:10,9:50
- Furry Vengeance (PG) 10:15,12:45,3:15,5:40
- The Back-up Plan (PG-13) 8:10,10:45
- Oceans (G) 10:30,1:40,4:10,6:45,9:15
- How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 10:45,1:10,3:40,6:20,8:45

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)
4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893

- Robin Hood (PG-13) ★ 4:40,7:15,9:50
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ 4:45,7:15,9:45
- Babies (PG) ★ 5:45,7:30,9:15
- A Nightmare on Elm Street (R) 9:50 P.M.
- Greenberg (R) 5:15,7:30

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)
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Show times change daily

- Robin Hood (PG-13) 10:45,12:00,2:00,3:15,5:15,6:30,8:30,9:40
- Just Wright (PG) ★ 1:10,2:12,20,1:50,2:50,4:30,5:30,7:00,8:00,9:30,10:30
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ 11:15,12:15,1:15,2:15,3:10,4:15,5:10,6:15,7:15,8:15,9:10,10:10
- A Nightmare on Elm Street (R) 11:30,1:55,4:20,5:25,6:45,7:45,8:00,10:00
- Furry Vengeance (PG) 11:00,1:10,3:20
- The Back-up Plan (PG-13) 11:40,2:10,4:40,7:20,9:45
- Death at a Funeral (R) 11:55,2:20,4:45,7:10,9:25
- The Losers (PG-13) 10:45,1:00,3:30,5:45,8:05,10:20
- Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too? (PG-13) 10:50,1:40,4:25,7:05,9:00
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid (PG) 11:55,2:40,5:00,7:30,9:55

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

164 State Street
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- School of the Art Institute of Chicago Undergraduate (NR) 4:30 P.M.
- Women Without Men (NR) 6:00,8:00

LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
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- Hot Tub Time Machine (R) 2:15,4:25,6:40,8:40
- Oceans (G) 2:00,4:05,6:05,8:10
- How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 2:05,4:10,6:15,8:20
- Alice in Wonderland (PG) 2:10,4:15,6:20,8:30

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- Babies (PG) 5:20,7:20,9:20
- Lourdes (NR) 5:30,7:35,9:40
- The Square (R) 12:00 Midnight
- The Human Centipede (NR) 12:00 Midnight

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)

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- Death at a Funeral (R) 4:55,10:00
- AMC Independent Babies (PG) 3:00,5:00,7:15,9:15
- AMC Independent The Runaways (R) 2:15,7:30
- AMC Independent City Island (PG-13) 2:30,5:15,7:45,10:12
- AMC Independent Greenberg (R) 2:00,4:30,7:00,9:30

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- Just Wright (PG) ★ 11:10,12:15,1:50,3:00,4:20,6:20,7:10,9:10,10:10,6:40,7:40,9:40,10:15
- Robin Hood (PG-13) ★ 10:10,11:20,12:20,20,4:20,4:30,5:00,6:30,7:10,8:20,9:15,10:00,10:30,11:00
- Babies (PG) ★ 10:10,12:10,2:20,4:45,6:50,9:00
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ 10:00,10:30,11:30,12:30,1:00,1:40,2:10,4:20,3:30,4:00,4:30,5:00,5:30,6:30,7:00,8:00,8:30,9:30,10:00,10:10,11:00
- Death at a Funeral (R) 11:40,12:20,3:45,5:10,7:45,10:20
- Date Night (PG-13) 11:30,2:30,5:10,8:20,10:40

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

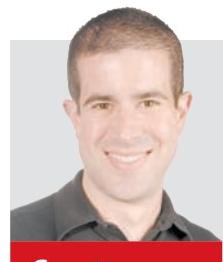
1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560

- Letters to Juliet (PG) ★ 12:00,2:20,4:40,7:00,9:20
- Robin Hood (PG-13) ★ 12:55,1:55,3:30,4:45,6:45,7:45,9:40,10:40
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ 12:45,1:45,3:30,4:30,6:15,7:15,9:00,10:00
- Date Night (PG-13) 10:5,10:15,10:25,10:25
- Death at a Funeral (R) 11:40,12:20,3:45,5:10,7:45,10:20
- How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 12:00,2:20,4:40,6:45,9:00

EVANSTON
CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0123

- The Big Lebowski (R) ★ 12:00,1:45,3:30,4:45,6:45,7:45,9:40,10:40
- Just Wright (PG) ★ 12:00,2:20,4:40,7:00,9:20
- Letters to Juliet (PG) ★ 11:35,1:10,2:25,3:45,5:05,6:20,7:40,8:55,10:25
- Robin Hood (PG-13) ★ 11:45,12:30,1:45,3:00,4:00,5:00,6:15,7:15,8:15,9:20,10:20
- A Nightmare on Elm Street (R) 1:45,6:40,11:30
- Babies (PG) ★ 1:00,3:15,5:20,7:35,9:45
- City Island (PG-13) 11:50,2:20,4:45,7:20,9:50
- Date Night (PG-13) 12:20,2:40,4:55,7:25,9:40,11:55
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ 11:35,12:10,12:45,2:30,3:05,3:40,4:15,5:25,5:55,6:35,7:10,8:20,8:50,9:30,10:05,11:15,11:45
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ 9:45 P.M.
- Iron Man 2 (PG-13) ★ 1:55,4:50,7:45,10:40
- Oceans (G) 1:20 P.M.
- Please Give (R) ★ 11:30,12:50,3:10,4:05,5:30,7:30,9:50,10:10
- The Secret in Their Eyes (R) 1:15,4:10,7:15,10:15



fast paised

MATT PAIS
mpais
@tribune.com

'LETTERS TO JULIET' (PG)



WANT MORE?

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Actors save corny 'Letters'

If a love story is set in a foreign country, "Mamma Mia!" star Amanda Seyfried must be playing a hopeless romantic named Sophie. The Sophie of "Letters to Juliet" is vacationing in Italy with her distracted fiance, Victor (Gael Garcia Bernal), and trying to help Claire (Vanessa Redgrave) reconnect with the love of her life 50 years after their separation.

The buzz: Think Sophie's charm will make Claire's buzz-kill grandson, Charlie (Christopher Egan), turn his frown upside down? For what it's worth, Seyfried's earlier 2010 foray into big-screen beach reading ("Dear John") was surprisingly heartfelt. "Letters to Juliet" comes from the director of "Bride Wars," however, so it's got some ground to make up.

The verdict: Just when "Letters to Juliet" gets into a non-corny groove, it goes and delivers a line like, "One of the great joys in life is having one's hair brushed." Yeesh. The movie follows romantic formula instead of generating sparks between Sophie and Charlie, but the actors, particularly Seyfried and Redgrave, help make the movie's romantic spirit contagious. **MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODUCER.**

» FOR MORE REVIEWS, GO TO METROMIX.COM.
» REDEYE CHATS WITH CHRISTOPHER EGAN. PAGE 39

!!! 'Casino Jack and the United States of Money' (R)

Ethics and laws prove to be minor inconveniences for powerful lobbyist Jack Abramoff, who establishes a network of crooked political allies while everyone gets rich under the table. His conniving, exclusively Republican pals include former House majority leader Tom DeLay and U.S. Rep. Bob Ney. Ney, like Abramoff, went to jail as a result of the corruption.

The verdict: There's a fine line between focused and redundant, and viewers may want a few less details and more about the agendas that people like Ney and DeLay may have had for appearing in Oscar-winning documentarian Alex Gibney's latest film. Those compelled by secrecy in Washington will find a devastating, disturbing examination of political back-scratching. There's so much evidence that the only thing more shocking than these guys' despicable behavior is that they got away with it for so long. **M.P.**

EVEN FASTER-PAISED

!!! 'Robin Hood' (PG-13)

Not fun or interesting.
What was the point?



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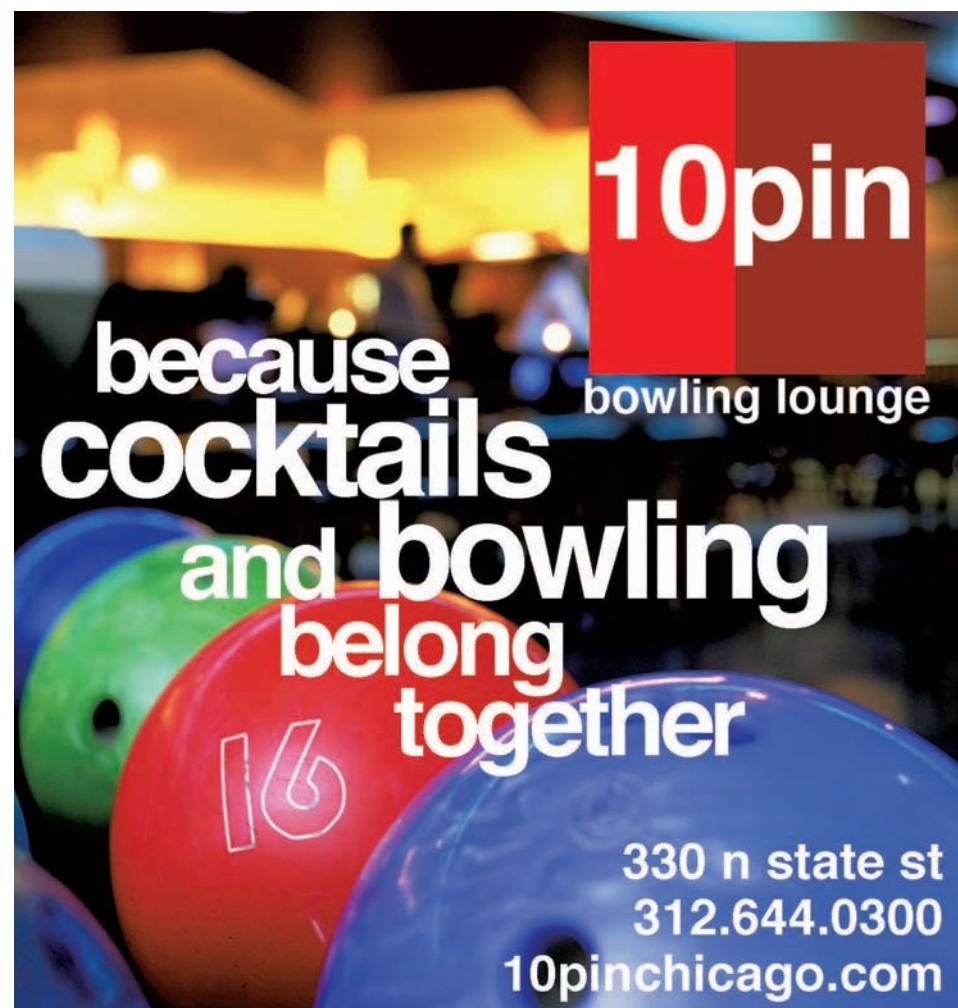
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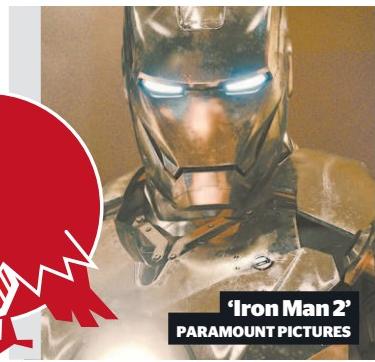
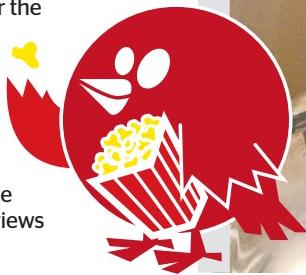
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IRON MAN 2

@brittcohen1: saw iron man! I loved it! It had the comedy, drama, lots of action & romance! Also the playful banter makes it great! Awesome
@pvevangelista: Iron Man 2: Not much better than the first. Nonetheless, it is a geek's wet dream.
@dancampbell1787: Iron Man 2 was ... above all, fun. Not that much super hero

originality, but still a fun time. Oh, Scarlett Johansson equals Hot

@AaronatJCP: Iron Man 2 Great mix of fight and dialogue scenes make one awesome movie. P.S. ScarJo equals Hot

@formerfatboys: i dare any 10-45 year old boy not to want to be Iron Man after watching IM2. Louder than the first, but a stellar sequel.

OTHERS

@shelby_fawn: Babies was an interesting & engaging look into the early years across the world. also, it was ADORABLE DAWWWWW BABIES.

@vaughnchicago: "Letters to Juliet" is a charmingly romantic snoozefest with absolutely no surprises.

@phil_jackson: Exit through the gift shop equals one part creative mastermind + one part semi-doc + crazy French guy + great street art.

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MARVEL

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IronManMovie.com



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Queen Latifah's growing empire

'Just Wright' star juggles new film, book and studio

By Miki Turner

FOR REDEYE

Queen Latifah is truly living up to her name.

Not only does she have a film opening Friday and an inspirational book titled, "Put on Your Crown: Life-Changing Moments on the Path to Queendom" coming out, she's built a new film and music studio in Miami.

"It just made sense," Latifah said during a New York interview to promote her new romantic comedy "Just Wright," starring Common, Paula Patton, Phylicia Rashad, James Pickens Jr. and Pam Grier. "We've been doing a lot of producing and creating and just felt that we needed a space to do all we wanted to do—make music, movies, TV and webisodes. I like having control over what I do and what I put out there."

Latifah does double duty as a producer and star of "Just Wright." She plays Leslie Wright, a physical therapist and die-hard New Jersey Nets fan who bumps into her favorite player, Scott McKnight (Common), at a gas station and helps him figure out where the gas tank is on his luxury ride.

But while Leslie and Scott obviously are attracted to each other, it's Leslie's bona fide groupie cousin, Morgan (Patton), who steals Scott's heart and then dumps him when he blows out his knee during a game. Guess who's been hired to nurse him back to health before the playoffs.

Being in a film that combines her two passions—love and basketball—was a win-win for Latifah, who played high school hoops back in the day.

"I'm a sports fan. I love sports. I love football, basketball and soccer," she said. "I just thought that this character was a lot like me, and we just wanted to take it to another level—someone who was a die-hard fan who loves sports and has the opportunity to meet her favorite player and fall in love."

Although the film does include some real

"I like having control over what I do and what I put out there."

QUEEN LATIFAH

NBA players, including Chicago native Dwyane

Wade and Dwight Howard, the jury is still out when it comes to judging the skills of another Chicagoan. Common, who indicated he's a cross between Jason Kidd and D-Wade, thinks he's about ready for the 2010 NBA draft.

"I think I'm a great point guard," he said. "I think I have a good handle when it comes to dribbling. I'm a good assist guy. I'm great at passing and I think I'm a leader. A point guard has to be a leader. I think I could play in the NBA if I chose to."

Although she rolled her eyes when told of his dream, Latifah is content to let Common stroll down Fantasy Boulevard.

"Don't everybody who can play ball think they can play in the NBA?" she said. "Just because you touch Dwyane Wade and Dwight Howard don't mean that you can play! They told him he had some game, and he lost his mind!"

Common might not be the baller he claims to be, but he was an ideal employee.



Queen Latifah (left) and Paula Patton — in 'Just Wright'
FOX SEARCHLIGHT FILMS

Size matters

When looking at the upcoming summer movies, many of the leading ladies who will grace the big screen seem to be uniformly of a similar size and color: Katherine Heigl, Megan Fox, Sarah Jessica Parker, Cameron Diaz, Kristen Stewart. One exception? Queen Latifah.

The star recently chatted about how far she thinks Hollywood has come in diversifying its ideal of beauty and what her role has been in helping to change stereotypes.

L.A. TIMES

Why don't you think we see a wider range of women on the big screen?

Unfortunately, this is America, and we can be very superficial. If the media is purporting one thing to be an ideal of beauty and that's where a lot of the dollars go for advertisement ... you want to buy the clothes that are for those kind of women. So it kind of takes away from who everyone is. This is a big, broad country, and most women do not look like that. Most women are not a size 2. So I don't think it really plays to what America looks like, but I guess people aspire to that on some level.

You're one of the few full-figured women we see on-screen. Has it been a challenge to be accepted in the industry?

It's become easier, but it has been a challenge. Because first of all, I had to convince everyone I could do it. If you were to ask someone when I started my career, "Can she be an A-list actor?" they'd say no, because their thinking was small.

So how did you overcome that?

I never wanted to be put in a box. It was just a matter of convincing people through the years who were important to my success that I was going to do this with or without them. I'm not a dummy. I'm a businessperson as well, so myself and my partner have created these opportunities where they didn't exist. We think of ways to create scenarios or scripts or records where the stories otherwise wouldn't have been told.

"I felt so bad for him sometimes, I swear I felt bad for him," Latifah said. "He would come to rehearsals, then he would have to go to practice and then he gotta go work out and then he had to go swim. He's eating these little meals—tasty but small—and then it's like pump iron. Everything we asked of him he delivered. I was extremely, extremely proud of him. So if he wants to whoop me in basketball, if he wants to think he's an NBA player, hey, he earned it. Let him enjoy it."

One thing the two friends did agree on was how much fun it was working together. Aside from appearing together on the big screen, they team up for a song on the soundtrack ("The Next Time") that Common wrote and Latifah performed. She said that he "enhanced what was already a good time."

"That's what it's all about for me now," she said. "I'm working hard to do all these things I want to do, and when you can work with really cool people that you like and respect, it just makes it all better."

MIKI TURNER IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

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'Letters to Juliet' star lives la vita bella in Italy

By Ariel Alexovich

REDEYE

Sometimes it's nice to see some stereotypes proven true, such as the one about all Australians being hot, friendly and outgoing.

That's the case with blond, handsome Aussie actor Christopher Egan, who offered a slice of his prosciutto pizza five minutes into a recent interview.

The crusts wouldn't have been much of a sacrifice, because Egan wasn't going to eat them. He's off carbs while promoting his romance film "Letters to Juliet," out Friday.

"I try not to have too many carbs, you know?" Egan admitted on a recent stop in Chicago. "Too much weight, you know? All these diets I have to be on. You know what, if I didn't have to be on camera tomorrow, I'd be stuffing my face with everything. It's only when I work, trust me."

Not that he thought filming "Juliet" alongside Amanda Seyfried, Vanessa Redgrave and Gael Garcia Bernal in the gorgeous Italian towns of Verona and Siena, plus the Tuscan

countryside, was particularly grueling work.

"It wasn't hard for us to get into character because we were living those characters' journeys, staying in all those hotels," said Egan, 25.

"Letters to Juliet" weaves two love stories—one between Redgrave and her long-lost Italian lover, and one involving Egan, Seyfried and Bernal's characters. It's loosely based on William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," but Egan is quick to point out that not all is what it seems.

"It's not a triangle like Gael Garcia Bernal, me and Amanda," he said. "The triangle is Vanessa, me and Amanda. ... It's a movie about great friendship and how far people will go for each other."

And unlike other romantic comedies, he added, "there's no over-the-top slapstick, you know, tripping and banging your head against the wall. It just seems really real and free."

Some action takes place in Verona, where the real-life Romeo and Juliet are fabled to have lived, but the heart of the story is a romantic road-trip adventure through Tuscany.



**Christopher Egan (left)
and Amanda Seyfried
in 'Letters to Juliet'**
SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

The cast got to be tourists when the cameras weren't rolling, and the actors tried out pasta-making and cheese-making classes.

"The owners at [the Borgo Scopeto hotel] owned one of the best, biggest, everything vineyards," Egan said, "so we got to go on tours with them and make olive oil and red wine."

The nearly 24/7 cast togetherness while filming helped nurture his off-screen friendship with Seyfried.

"She was knitting during rehearsals some days or creating weird things out of apple and wire, creating little figurines," Egan said. "She's like a big kid when she works, and I'm a bit the same. That's why we clicked."

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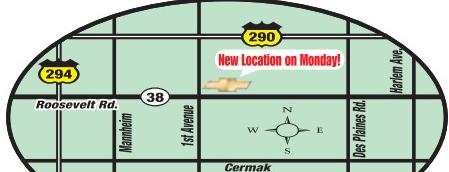
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Mullally on
'Party Down'
STARZ



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Mullally loves to 'Party Down'

Newsweek column calling gay actors
unconvincing has her fuming, though

Like her character on the Starz comedy "Party Down," Megan Mullally doesn't seem like a woman who gets incredibly fired up.

During a phone chat from Oklahoma City, where she was visiting family, she stopped the conversation to alert husband Nick Offerman (Ron Swanson on "Parks and Recreation") to a flock of white birds.

But Mullally didn't stay mellow when I asked her about a recent Newsweek column stating that gay actors aren't believable in straight roles. Writer Ramin Setoodeh singled out Mullally's good friend Sean Hayes, writing that the gay actor's portrayal of a straight ad man in Broadway's "Promises, Promises" was "wooden and insincere." He also called gay Broadway star Jonathan Groff "so distracting" in his guest role on Fox's "Glee" as a straight high school student.

"It's just beyond comprehension," Mullally said Tuesday. "That the article was written and the editor allowed it to go out online is beyond comprehension. They should be ashamed of themselves."

"I don't have anything else to really say about it. I could talk about it for 27 hours [but] we don't have 27 hours."

Newsweek and Setoodeh have been roundly booed by the acting community, including Hayes' "Promises" co-star Kristin Chenoweth, who posted a long response on the Newsweek website. Mullally, who played boozy Karen Walker to Hayes' Jack McFarland on "Will & Grace" for eight years, defended her friend and the play.

"Just for the record, Sean Hayes is phenomenal in that show, and the show is phenomenal and the storytelling is very complete. The love stories are all there, and he's a phenomenally talented guy and his sexuality does not enter into or inform his abilities in any way."

As for "Party Down," Mullally said she had a blast stepping into the role of Lydia Dunfree, a recently divorced, rather naive mom who has moved to L.A. to help her daughter, Escapade, break in to showbiz. Lydia gets a job with the catering service at the center of the show.

Mullally, 51, who went to Northwestern University and worked in Chicago theaters for several years, has had her share of odd jobs, including as a foot model in the Windy City.

"I had size 6 feet, and so I got called to be a model for this shoe show at the convention center," she said, laughing. "I sat in a hotel room with a bunch of Japanese guys and tried on shoes all day, which was the closest to, like, a fetish film that I've ever done. That was a one-day-only career."

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From spud to pro-gaming stud

By Ryan Smith

FOR REDEYE

Though barely old enough to drive, Anthony Pennachio can be called a grizzled veteran of the professional gaming world. So much so that he's working as a scout for Major League Gaming.

The 17-year old, who goes by his gamertag of "Totz," will be watching for raw talent at the Doritos' Pro-Gaming Combine in St. Charles this weekend—an event described as "American Idol" meets "Halo," where Chicago-area gamers vie for a chance to become professional "Halo 3" players. RedEye caught up with the Chicago-area native to talk about life as a joystick jockey.

» READ RYAN SMITH'S BLOG AT CHICAGONOW.COM/GAMESMITH.

As a scout, what do you look for in a potential pro?

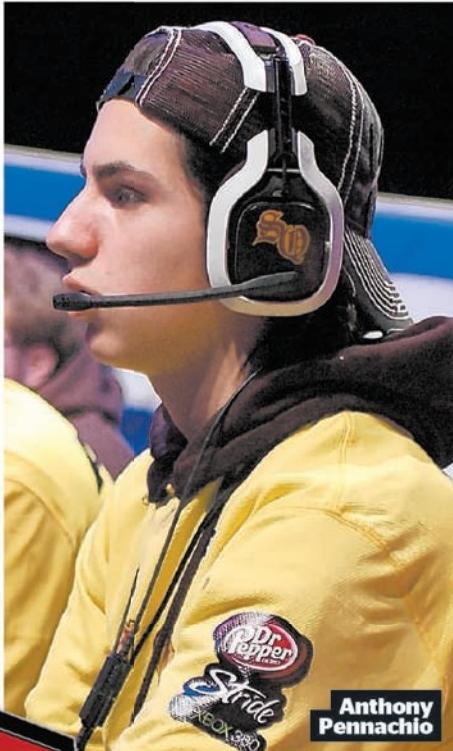
People think it's all shot accuracy, and that is important, but that's not just what it's about. You also evaluate things like their composure under pressure, and good teamwork is important. What separates a lot of pros from amateurs is the ability to talk amongst each other and working together.

What do regular gamers do when you beat them in a game? Do they get mad or think, "It's OK, no big deal, he's a pro?"

Sometimes a lot of kids have bigger egos than pros do. Sometimes they talk crap to you and sometimes they're respectful. I try to be respectful to everyone and try to be the nice guy in the league and say "Good game" when I win. But yeah, I've heard some pretty bad stuff. When you play "Modern Warfare 2," you hear guys yell stuff like "Get raped, [bleep]," and it's like, "C'mon, that's terrible." But at the same time, it's fun to beat the kids that talk so much trash.

Is it true that your parents' basement has been converted into a pro-gaming practice space?

Yeah, it's pretty unique because my house in



EVENT INFO

MLG Doritos Pro-Gaming Combine

When: 11 a.m. Friday; 8 a.m. Saturday and Sunday

Where: Pheasant Run Resort, 4051 E. Main St., St. Charles

More info: combine.mlgpro.com/events/2010/chicago

Bloomingdale has like eight big TVs and eight Xboxes connected to them, and we run these LAN games. We even stream the video of our games live so that fans can

watch us online. Actually, a lot of the top teams come here and practice in my basement. It's fun to have.

So you're one of the rare kids whose parents actually encourage you to go downstairs and play video games all day? Yeah, it's funny because it's like "SportsCenter" in here, because my dad is actually into it more than I am. He knows who the top teams are and tells me about all the MLG news. And, obviously, my dad built this setup in

my basement, so both of my parents are very supportive and it's nice.

Where does the nickname "Totz" come from?

Well, back when I was like 8 or 9, my brother played a lot of "Halo 1," and his gamertag was "Joe Fries." I went with "Baby Totz" because I wanted to keep it in the potato family.

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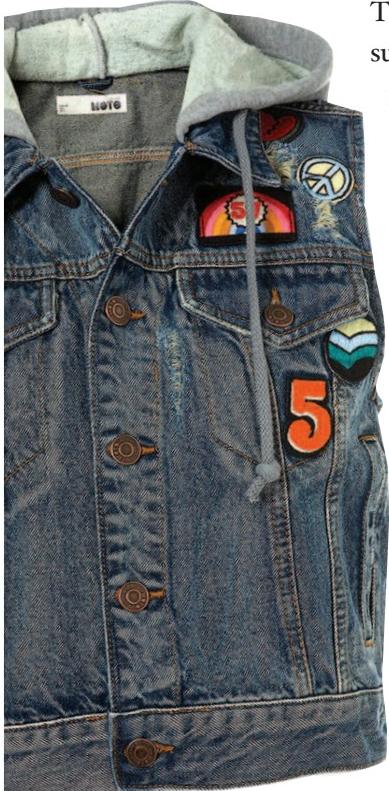


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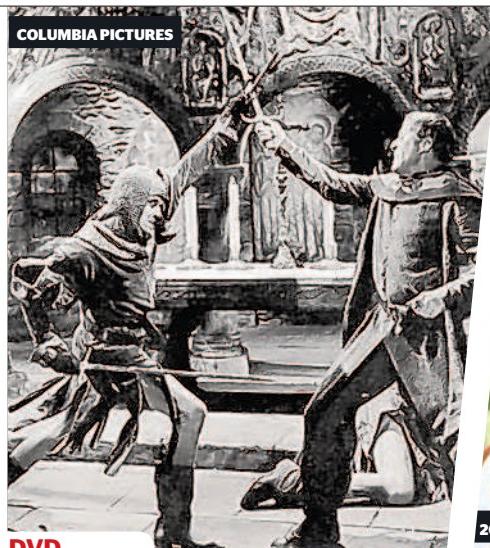
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SONG**'Revolution'**
By Terrible Things

Terrible Things—led by ex-Taking Back Sunday singer-guitarist Fred Mascherino, Coheed & Cambria's Josh Eppard and Hot Rod Circuit's Andy Jackson—layers heavy rock guitars and an indie vibe over the poppier sensibilities of Mascherino's The Color Fred. Their first single manages to be wild-eyed and anthemic, with a memorable chorus and enough of an edge to keep fans wondering what the debut, due late this summer, will bring. **GLENN GAMBOA, NEWSDAY**

**Sony Pictures' 'Robin Hood'**
\$8.99 each at amazon.com

With the release of "Robin Hood" starring Russell Crowe and Cate Blanchett, Sony Pictures is rolling out four classic takes on the iconic character who robs from the rich and gives to the poor. The four motion pictures will be released individually with little in the way of special features.

GARRETT CONTI, PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW

**'Robin Hood: Men in Tights'**
\$18.49 Blu-ray at amazon.com

Mel Brooks pokes fun at the legend of Robin Hood and his band of merry men from Sherwood Forest in this 1993 comedy. Originally released as part of a Mel Brooks Blu-ray collection, it's now available on its own. **DOUG NYE, MCT**

**FASHION****Juicy Couture 'Pompom Tassels' Straw Sun Hat**

\$88 at Nordstrom

Wrinkles are never chic, but a floppy, wide-brimmed straw hat definitely is. Shield your face from the sun—if it ever comes out—with Juicy Couture's straw wonder, adorned with colorful pompoms and tassels. If you're planning an island getaway, this hat is a must-have. It looks just as great worn lakeside or perusing a farmers market. **JOANNA GUSTAFSON FOR REDEYE**

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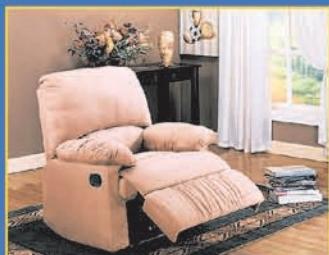
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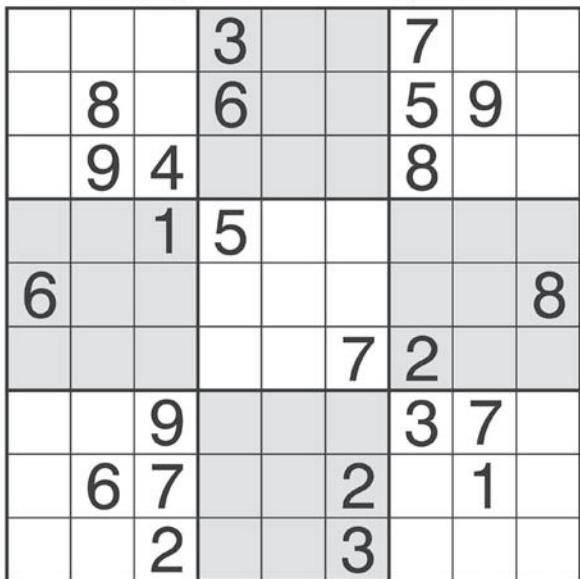
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6	4	2	1	3	5	8	9	7
5	8	9	2	4	7	1	6	3
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THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

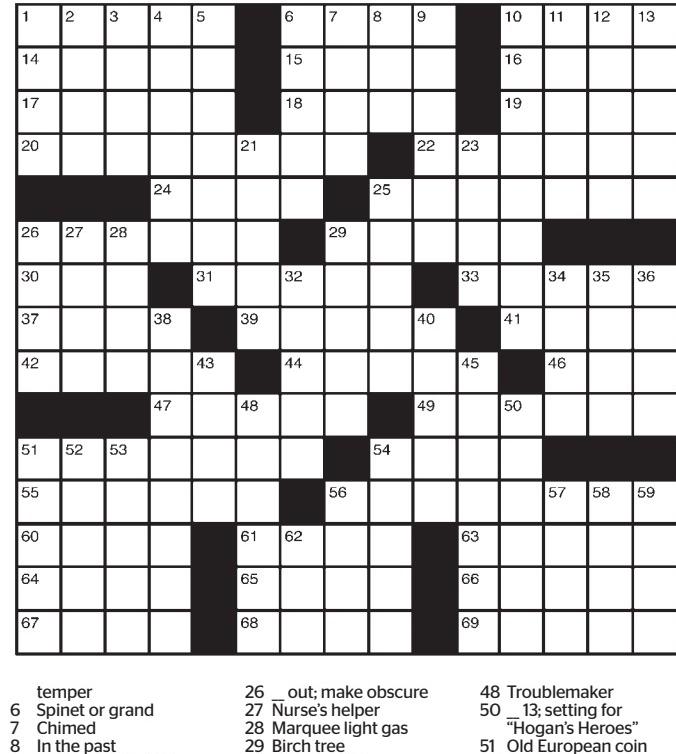
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ACROSS

- 1 Make a broad cut in
- 6 Say an "Our Father," e.g.
- 10 Rather _; instead of
- 14 The Lone Ranger's companion
- 15 Villain in "Othello"
- 16 Speak wildly
- 17 As likely _; probably
- 18 By an unknown poet; abbr.
- 19 Once again
- 20 Extending
- 22 Benefactors
- 24 Casino game
- 25 Thickness
- 26 Sprawling tree
- 29 Main artery
- 30 Decline
- 31 Good buys
- 33 Yellowish color
- 37 Smell
- 39 Passenger
- 41 Heavy book
- 42 Religious doctrine
- 44 Adjust an alarm
- 46 Slick liquid
- 47 TV's " _ Pyle"
- 49 Eclair or tart
- 51 In two parts
- 54 Floating board
- 55 In _; as one
- 56 Vagabond
- 60 Group of actors
- 61 Jai _; fast-paced game
- 63 Dodge
- 64 Feed the kitty
- 65 Scoundrels
- 66 Narratives
- 67 Drop of sorrow or joy
- 68 Adams or Falco
- 69 Representative

DOWN

- 1 Celebrity
- 2 Get beaten
- 3 Actress Paquin
- 4 Thickset
- 5 One with a quick



- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| temper | 26 _ out; make obscure | 48 Troublemaker |
| 6 Spinet or grand | 27 Nurse's helper | 50 _ 13; setting for "Hogan's Heroes" |
| 7 Chimed | 28 Marquee light gas | 51 Old European coin |
| 8 In the past | 29 Birch tree | 52 Silly |
| 9 O'er _; distant but within sight | 32 Made public | 53 Panorama |
| 10 Do business | 34 Owl's cry | 54 Elevate |
| 11 Capital of Vietnam | 35 Eminent | 56 Gully |
| 12 Turn aside | sheikh | 57 Regulation |
| 13 Interesting | 36 Depend | 58 Early home for Adam and Eve |
| 21 Near the center | 38 Enroll | 59 Relax |
| 23 Climb _; mount | 40 Get vengeance | 62 Boy |
| 25 Medicinal amounts | 43 Hubbub | 45 Crisp dress fabric |

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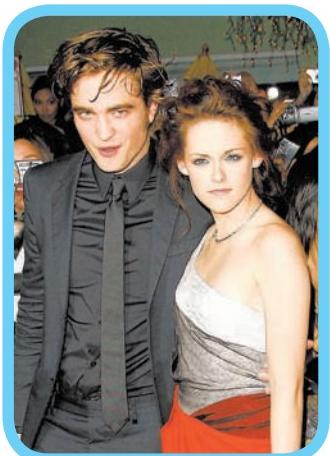
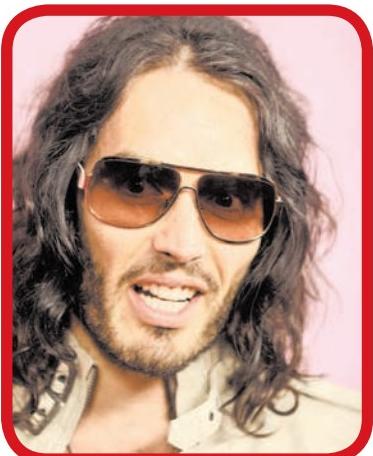
SATISFYING



STRANGE

Sex, 'Sex' & speculation

The kickoff to your weekend wouldn't be complete without the celebrity news roundup for the week. EMILY ROSENBAUM MAKAS, REDEYE



Alien creatures
The new "Sex and the City 2" poster features

all four of our gals, but great Caesar's ghost, what happened to their faces? The Photoshop is over the top, and Kristin Davis must agree because when asked about the poster recently, she refused to comment. Sarah Jessica Parker doesn't even resemble a human being. Let women over 40 look like women over 40.



Drunk on sex
Before he was engaged to Katy Perry, **Russell Brand** got his fill of hollow sex. His

sex addiction was once so raging he hired a team to help him target women, he says. "My selection process was outsourced," he tells Playboy. "I had a team of experts who took care of finding women for me. They had very specific instructions. It was as if I was talking to a wine steward—I'm looking for something French, a bit fruity, smells of oak."



Let's move on
The breathless speculation over whether **Robert Pattinson** and **Kristen Stewart**

are dating has grown tiresome. On Oprah Winfrey's show Thursday, she said to the "Twilight" stars: "There are all these rumors about the two of you dating. Is it true?" They dodged the query by giving jokey answers. They don't want to discuss their private lives, so stop asking.



Let's get mental
Toni Collette is reuniting with her "Muriel's Wedding" director P.J. Hogan for the film "Mental," ew.com says. Hogan, who wrote the script, tells Variety that Shaz, the central character, is "totally, totally mad." This is good news for those who loved the madness, comedy and tragedy of "Muriel's Wedding." Please have another ABBA sing-along, Mr. Hogan.



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“ That story's the worst. I mean, at the end the tree is a stump and the old guy's just sitting on him; he's just used him to death, and you're supposed to want to be the tree? [Bleep] you. You be the tree. I don't want to be the tree.”

RYAN GOSLING »

talking to New York magazine about “The Giving Tree” by Shel Silverstein. In Gosling’s new movie, “Blue Valentine,” his character has a tattoo of the Giving Tree.



Mary J. Blige
GETTY IMAGES FILE

DIGIT

\$5.4 million

That's the asking price for the cornfield from 1989's “Field of Dreams,” The Associated Press reports. The deal includes 193 acres in Iowa with a two-bedroom house, six outbuildings (including a concession stand) and the baseball diamond itself.

Blige to put a spell on us

Mary J. Blige has been cast to play Nina Simone in an upcoming biopic titled “Nina.” According to Variety, the story is about Simone’s relationship with her assistant, Clifton Henderson, who will be played by David Oyelowo. The project is written and directed by Cynthia Mort, who wrote “The Brave One.”



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Schock

Serving up beefcake

His abs are yummy, but how is his palate? Congressman Aaron Schock of Peoria will serve as a guest judge on “Top Chef,” which will in-

vade Washington, D.C., Bravo announced Thursday. The new season of the cooking competition, which debuts June 16, also will feature House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, White House chef Sam Kass and MSNBC host Joe Scarborough as guest judges. Sadly, none of the 17 “cheftestants” hail from Chicago.

Hip-hop hooray

Eminem's back again—in a big way. After scoring the No. 1 spot on Billboard's Hot 100 with his new single, “Not Afraid,” the rapper is teaming up with Jay-Z for two “once-in-a-lifetime” concerts (according to Em), in each singer's hometown, billboard.com reported Thursday. Em and Hova will co-headline Detroit's Comerica Park on Sept. 2 and New York's Yankee Stadium on Sept. 13, according to Billboard.



Gaga for Greyson

Greyson Chance is the new Justin Bieber! It's a bold statement, but the 12-year-old has taken YouTube and now “The Ellen DeGeneres Show” by storm with his version of Lady Gaga's “Paparazzi.” He has a better version of the Bieb's hair and some serious vocal and piano chops. Gaga herself called Greyson during his “Ellen” appearance Thursday, telling him to “be focused” and “stay away from girls.”

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